

# SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Rensselaer, Indiana



## A CHRONOLOGY

by

Charles J. Robbins, C.P.P.S.

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**From the Beginning to 1990**

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## PREFACE

In an interview in *Stuff*, March 8th, 1974, Father Dominic Gerlach, C.P.P.S., College archivist, stated: "The school needs some type of chronological history, perhaps a brochure or catalog, giving the dates of significant events in college history." The article continued: "A publication of this nature would give students greater insight into the background of Saint Joseph's College, while at the same time answering often-asked questions about the school's history."

This small book is intended to meet that need, and has for its audience the students, faculty, alumni, Board of Trustees, and other friends of Saint Joseph's College. It is not meant to be a comprehensive history of the College, but can help fill in the gap until such a history is written. Instead of a mere listing of dates and events, it has sought to select the more significant ones for each year and to flesh them out with a few details. It differs from the Bicentennial Essays issued in Xerox form by Father Dominic Gerlach and Mr. Charles Schuttrow in 1976 in that it treats items in a strictly chronological order and in summary fashion rather than in depth, and thus includes many more items than did the Essays.

One can only hope that the material selected is representative enough and presented well enough to give a balanced picture of the College's history and some feeling for what Saint Joseph's has meant to students, faculty and the public. I am grateful to Father Charles Banet, President of the College, and Father Dominic Gerlach, College archivist and historian, for reading the manuscript and making valuable suggestions.

The first edition came out in 1983. This edition has been updated to 1990 as part of the Centennial Celebration of the College.

## SOURCES

1. Aldering, Rev. H.J., *The Diocese of Ft. Wayne, 1857-1907*.
2. Sullivan, Rev. William, *St. Joseph's College: A Retrospect 1891-1916*, issued by the Alumni Association for the 25th anniversary of the College. (63 pages)
3. *Rensselaer Republican*, 1865-1990, a daily newspaper.
4. Gerlach, Rev. Dominic, C.PP.S., *St. Joseph's Indian Normal School, 1888-1896*, published March, 1973, by the Indiana Magazine of History. (42 pages)
5. Minutes of the meetings of the Faculty, President's Administrative Council, and the Board of Trustees. Some early records are missing or incomplete.
6. News Releases, 1965-1990, 36 bound volumes, and Sports Releases, 1965-1983, 26 bound volumes, issued by Charles Schuttrow, Director of the College News Bureau.
7. Saint Joseph's Catalogs, 1891-1990.
8. *The Saint Joseph's Collegian*, 1894-1910 and 1927-1937, a student literary journal and campus chronicle; *College Cheer*, 1913-1927, student newspaper; *Stuff*, 1937-1990, student newspaper; *Phase*, 1941-1990, college yearbook; *Contact*, 1939-1990, alumni newspaper.
9. *Nuntius Aulæ*, 1917-1968, a religious journal and chronicle of the Society of the Precious Blood, published by the students of Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio.
10. *The Gasparian*, 1938-1966, a news journal of the society of the Precious Blood.
11. *C.PP.S. Newsletter*, 1966-1990, a newsletter of the Cincinnati Province of the Society of the Precious Blood.
12. *Precious Blood Messenger*, 1894-1968, a magazine of devotion with an occasional item on Saint Joseph's College.
13. *Bicentennial Essays*, by Reverend Dominic B. Gerlach, C.PP.S., College historian and archivist since 1959, and Charles J. Schuttrow, Director of Public Information since 1965. The xeroxed volume of 222 typewritten pages, double-spaced, consists of an excellent series of articles and pictures that were published as part of Saint Joseph's participation in the Bicentennial Year of 1976, including the biographies of the Presidents of the College and other well-known campus people, and various topics of interest arranged to cover the main events of the College from the beginning. (When reference is made to the volume in this Chronology it will be abbreviated BE.)



## TO THE READER

The years appear in the lefthand margin. The single date is for that particular year, beginning in January. The double date is for the beginning of that particular school year. Key words or phrases in a paragraph appear in bold type. In the back there are two charts for dates of buildings and land acquisitions; there is also a topical index for the location of specific items.

## A CHRONOLOGY

- 1867 John Henry Luers, first bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne, purchased the **George Spitler farm** of 933 acres for \$18,000 to erect a Catholic **orphanage**. Two hundred acres of the land were under cultivation, 200 in woods and the rest in prairie. With the farm were two dwellings, located on what is today Saint Joseph's College campus. The larger 12-room building, which had been the residence of George Spitler, built in the 1850's, became the first orphan building. It stood on the north end of the elevation where the College Administration Building was to be erected later.

Mr. Spitler had three children. The daughter, Virginia, was converted to the Catholic Church while attending St. Mary's Academy at Notre Dame, and became a zealous promoter of Catholicity and later a frequent visitor and generous benefactor of Saint Joseph's College. She married Edwin P. Hammond, a Rensselaer lawyer, who later became a member of the State Supreme Court.

- 1868 The first 35 orphans arrived at Saint Joseph's Orphan Asylum and Manual Training School in 1868. In charge of the orphanage was Father Joseph Stephan, who will later establish the Saint Joseph's Indian Normal School on some of the land that had belonged to the orphanage. Shortly after the opening of the orphanage Bishop Luers erected a two-story building, of which the first floor was a chapel and the second floor a priest's residence with three rooms and a dormitory for boys. It stood south of the other orphan building, facing south. It was also used as the parish church for the Catholic people of Rensselaer until their own church was completed in 1885. A few years later Bishop Dwenger erected another two-story building, the lower floor of which was used for a school and the second floor for a girls' dormitory. The first floor was used also as a kind of parochial school for the Catholic children of Rensselaer. It stood west of the other two buildings.

- 1875 The *Rensselaer Republican* for December 2, 1875 reports: "Bishop Dwenger of the Fort Wayne diocese, in whose jurisdiction is the Roman Catholic Church at Rensselaer, has engaged to erect a college at Fowler, in Benton County . . . Moses Fowler, Esq., of Lafayette, though not a Catholic, had donated for the institution 320 acres of the finest land adjoining the town, for a Benedictine convent and college . . . The Abbey of St. Boniface of Munich in Bavaria, Europe, and St. Meinrad, Indiana, will unite in the establishment of this institution." Because of the dubious reputation of Mr. Fowler as a banker and because of unacceptable conditions, the Benedictines backed out. The bishop then bought some land at Crown Point for a Benedictine foundation and college, but that project also fell through because of financial mismanagement. Had either one of these plans succeeded, there would be no Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer today. Later the bishop offered the Benedictines 320 acres of the orphanage land along with the buildings for the erection of a Catholic College and preparatory seminary, but the offer was turned down because of the location.
- 1876 The orphan boys, 35 in number, were removed to a new facility in Lafayette. The girls will remain another eleven years when in 1887 they will be moved to Saint Vincent's Orphanage in Fort Wayne. They numbered at that time somewhere between 40 and 50.
- 1877 Bishop Joseph Dwenger, second bishop of Fort Wayne and a member of the Society of the Precious Blood, now attempted to engage the Society in building the college the Benedictines had turned down. He offered the orphanage plus a square mile of land and some cash. The Sisters of the Precious Blood, still at the time a part of the one Society with the priests and brothers, were to assume care of about 50 orphan girls for several years until a new orphanage would be built for them in Fort Wayne. Father Bernard Austermann, the C.P.P.S. Provincial at the time, refused the offer, principally because of the poorness of the land, the burden of caring for the orphans and the smallness of the parish where the bishop expected a church to be built. At that time also there was no railroad through Rensselaer. He doubted whether the college venture would succeed.
- 1888 The **Saint Joseph's Indian Normal School** was opened and the first Indians arrived: 16 Chippewas and Menominees from Wisconsin reservations and 20 Dakotas from the Dakota Territory. Earlier in the year Bishop Dwenger had sold 420 acres of the orphanage land to Father Joseph Stephan, at this time head of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions. **Katharine Drexel**, a wealthy Philadelphia banking heiress, paid for the erection of the school buildings and for the land. (She will be referred to as Mother Katharine Drexel after 1891 when she founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People.) Early the next year the school was put in the charge of the Society of the Precious Blood. Money for the transportation, maintenance and instruction of the Indians was furnished by the Federal

Government. The general purpose of such government-supported schools was to "civilize" the Indians, and the specific purpose of St. Joseph's Indian School was to prepare the more capable ones to become Catholic Indian teachers and leaders and to train the others in mechanical and agricultural skills.

On the night of September 15, 1888, the original 12-room orphan building burned to the ground. Some of the things meant for the Indian School, which had just opened, especially clothing, were temporarily stored in the building and were lost in the fire. We also learn from the *Rensselaer Republican* for September 20, 1888 that: "A few days before the fire Father Willard (superintendent of the Indian School) had received notice that next week a father and two brothers of the Order of the Precious Blood would occupy the building as a residence, while they arranged for the erection of a building to accommodate the college to be established here, by that organization." Obviously other arrangements had to be made.

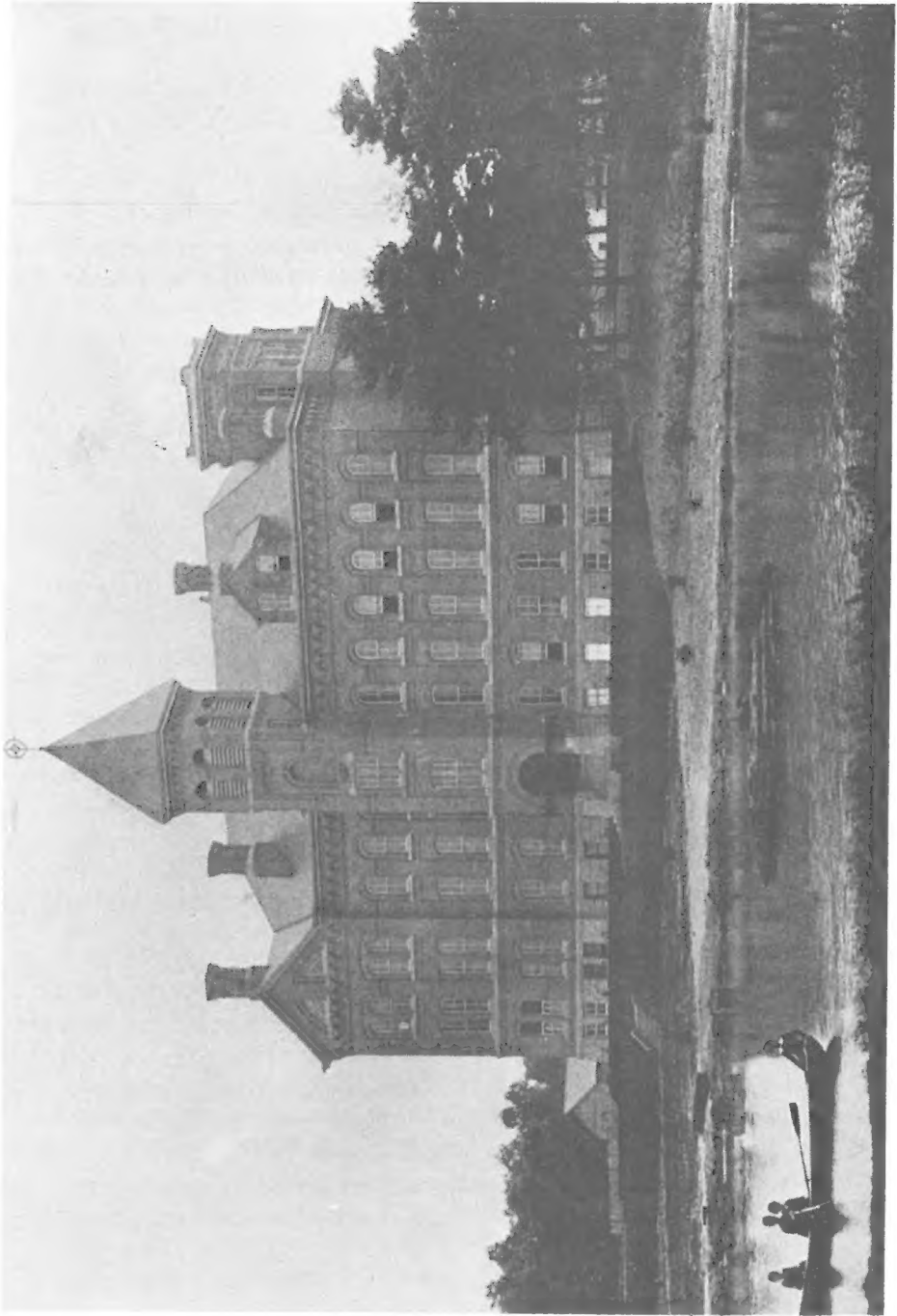
- 1889     **Saint Joseph's College was chartered** on March 20th, 1889, by an Act of Incorporation in the State of Indiana. It was given the name Joseph in honor of Bishop Joseph Dwenger, who had done so much to get it established. Earlier in the year Bishop Dwenger had donated 320 acres of the orphanage farm, together with the buildings, for the erection of a college. Father Henry Drees, Provincial of the Society of the Precious Blood at this time, desired a separate institution for the Society's college seminarians, who were then making their studies with the major seminarians at Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio. Attempts to establish such an institution in Ohio had failed to materialize. Bishop Dwenger, as we have seen, also had his heart set upon the establishment of a Catholic College and Preparatory Seminary for students studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Fort Wayne. The two projects were to come together. "The Provincial, as his part of the undertaking, was to supply teachers and money; the bishop . . . offered the farm land. An earlier proposition of the same kind had been made to Father Bernard Austermann, Father Drees' predecessor in office, some years before; but on account of the unattractiveness of the location itself and the poor geographical position, it had been refused. The new suggestion of the bishop was in reality a pressing appeal which neither the Provincial nor his consultants felt able to withstand, and the 'gift', after having been long debated and much opposed, was accepted at last." (*Retrospect*, p. 6) But the situation had become more favorable than at the time of the first offer: Saint Augustine's Church had been built in Rensselaer, a railroad had been put through the town, and the land was beginning to be drained. Consequently the first *Prospectus* of 1891, a kind of preliminary Catalog for prospective students and their parents, could present the whole matter in a positive light. "For some years," it said, "the Congregation of the Precious Blood has been making preparations to open a College for Catholic students exclusive-

ly. After due consideration it was concluded to accept the kind invitation of Right Rev. Joseph Dwenger, D.D., and locate the college in his diocese." To the original 300 acres of land have been added other acquisitions through donation or purchase to constitute the present 1361 acres. Another 240 acres were received as a gift in 1930 but sold in 1952.

The figure of 320 acres keeps cropping up throughout the dealings with the Benedictines and the C.P.P.S. The reason for that particular figure is that it was the maximum real estate which, according to the laws of Indiana at that time, a college could own without paying taxes on it. The amount of land was a half section, that is, a half of one square mile. The donation from Bishop Dwenger, however, because of the position of the road, was actually only 300 acres.

- 1890 Plans for the **new college building** (for many years known as the Main Building and later as the Administration Building) were drawn up, and the contract for the construction went to William Medland and sons of Logansport, Indiana. The Medlands were to be responsible for construction of all the buildings on the campus for the next twenty-five years. The cornerstone for the new building was laid on July 6th. It was the most pretentious building in Jasper County at the time: three stories high, with a basement, 135 feet long, 55 feet wide, 88 feet high, with an imposing tower of 115 feet. The basement contained the kitchen, three dining rooms, laundry and a cellar. The first and second floors contained three rooms for Sisters, five private rooms, a reception room, infirmary, library and two large study halls. The third floor contained the dormitories.

The two frame buildings that had been erected for the orphanage still remained, but were removed from their original positions. The chapel building was moved westward to a spot roughly mid-way between the current powerhouse and Dwenger Hall. The bottom floor was used as a carpenter shop and the second floor as a recreation room by the C.P.P.S. seminarians. It was torn down in 1915. The school house was moved to where Merlini Hall now stands and was first used to house Brothers and later some lay employees. It was razed in 1940 when Merlini (then Noll) Hall was built. The original orphan building, it will be recalled, burned on September 15, 1888. There seems to be no record of what happened to the smaller original building.



*St. Joseph's College 1891*

## 1891-1899: FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND AUGUSTINE SEIFERT, C.PP.S.

1891     Father Augustine Seifert, **The first President of the College**, arrived in January to supervise the finishing of the building. A student in the first class recalls Father Seifert as "a tall, sturdy, upstanding man, truly religious, with a sterling character and austere countenance. He was the institution, its untiring and able director for years." (BE, p. 40) In addition to his job as president, dean of studies and student affairs, registrar, and treasurer, he taught 24 hours a week. He was to hold the office, though his burden was shared with others later, for two terms for a total of 19 years, the two terms being interrupted by a three-year appointment to re-organize the program of studies at Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio. Not only because of his importance in the formative years of the College and the length of his office, but because of his natural dominance, he became practically a legend in his own life time. "All those who knew Father Seifert knew a man strong of body and character who eagerly shouldered responsibility, and preached and practiced a basic philosophy of life that stressed hard work, obedience to authority and allegiance to his Church." (BE, p. 23) So close was his supervision of all aspects of the College that he acquired the name "Daddy". He died December 16, 1937, at Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio.

1891-     The new building was dedicated on August 23rd and **the first school year**  
1892     began on Wednesday, September 2nd, 1891. The following priests of the Society of the Precious Blood are listed in the first faculty roster: Augustine Seifert, Benedict Boebner, John Nageleisen, Paulinus Trost, Stanislaus Neiberg, and Leopold Linder. To these were added Rev. Mr. Sailer, then a deacon, and Mr. Haas a lay professor of Music. Father Neiberg was also the pastor of the Church in Rensselaer until 1896 when he became a full-time teacher. Of these instructors only Mr. Haas had an academic degree. It would be another 21 years before a C.PP.S. man received a graduate degree. But it would be a mistake to think that because these priests had neither graduate nor undergraduate degrees they were not qualified. They were competent, informed and dedicated teachers. They had either been instructors at Saint Charles Seminary or parish priests. Paulinus Trost had just returned from studying art in Munich, Germany. John Nageleisen was to be the first faculty member of Saint Joseph's College to publish a book, *Charity for the Suffering Souls*, 578 pages, in 1895. He also founded the Messenger Press in 1894, which still flourishes, now at Carthagen, Ohio.

The student body consisted of 54 students, arriving at different times in the summer and fall. The following States were represented: Indiana 26, Ohio 20, Missouri 4, North Dakota 3, and Wisconsin 1. Most of the Indiana students were sent from Fort Wayne by the bishop to continue their studies



for the diocesan priesthood. Most of the students from Ohio, though not all, were candidates for the Society of the Precious Blood. The diocesan students were known as Seculars and the C.P.P.S. candidates variously as Religious or Community students, terms that were to endure for many decades. The four students from North Dakota and Wisconsin were from the Indian school across the road. They were sent to the College specifically to begin preparatory studies for the priesthood. Though most of the students were seminarians, in accordance with the intentions that the Bishop of Fort Wayne and the Society of the Precious Blood had in mind in establishing the College, they were not exclusively so.

There were two programs of study: The Classical Program and the Commercial Program. The first Catalog, for the opening school year 1891-92, tells us: "The object of this institution is to give Catholic young men a solid and complete classical and commercial education. Hence there are two departments, the Classical and the Commercial. For the benefit of pupils not sufficiently advanced in elementary studies to enter one of the regular courses, there is one Preparatory Class." The Classical Program was a five-year program, and would become six years in the fall of 1897; it was primarily for those studying for the priesthood, and stressed Latin, Greek, English and the liberal arts in general. The Commercial Program was three years. In the fall of 1895 there will be added a three-year Normal Program, meant to prepare grade school teachers.

Though Saint Joseph's was known as a college the students at this time were all on the high school level or lower. When the fifth and sixth years are added St. Joseph's will then have both secondary and college programs within the same institution. This was not unusual since there were many institutions at the time offering regular college programs but enrolling the majority of their students in pre-college courses. Even at the end of the nineteenth century nearly half the students in land-grant colleges were in preparatory rather than collegiate programs. "Given this mixing of different levels of instruction and different age groups within institutions, the distinction between secondary and college level instruction was extremely hard to draw. Few observers even bothered to try." (Jencks and Riesman, *The Academic Revolution*, New York, 1968, p. 29) In the 1896-97 Saint Joseph's Catalog, classes are simply listed as running from first to sixth. In the following Catalog the first two years are listed as Preparatory and the last four as Collegiate. Change did not come till the beginning of World War I when the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching imposed a measure of uniformity. But this earlier fluidity allowed Saint Joseph's to grant a Bachelor of Arts Degree during the period 1897-1914, even though by today's standards it was then only a junior college.

The school year was divided into two four and a half months sessions running from the beginning of September to the middle of June, with a two week's

Christmas vacation in the first session (the Community students remained on campus during Christmas vacation). It is interesting to note that though all the faculty and a majority of the students were of German descent, among the holidays celebrated was Saint Patrick's Day. This was probably not so much out of deference to the students sent by the Bishop of Fort Wayne, many of whom were of Irish ancestry, but because St. Patrick was in this country peculiarly associated with assertive Catholicism. The feast day was to remain an exuberant holiday for at least four decades.

The order of the day ran from rising at 5:00 A.M. to evening prayers and retiring at 8:30 P.M. The cost of room, board, and tuition was \$75.00 a semester. It is interesting to note that piano and organ lessons were \$20.00 per semester or 27% as much as total cost. Similar lessons are \$90.00 a semester in 1990 when room, board and tuition are \$5415, or 1.67% of total costs. The high price of music lessons in 1891 is probably a reflection of the fact that this was the one position held by a salaried layman.

- 1892- The student body in the second year had grown from 54 to 85, 43 of whom  
1893 were Community students. Of the total number, 43 returned from the previous year and 42 were new.

The second year of the College was one of creating organizations and establishing traditions. It saw the beginning of three important societies: literary, military and musical. **The Columbian Literary Society** (C.L.S.) had its first meeting on October 21st, 1892, the day the World's Fair (Columbian Exposition) opened in Chicago in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. This was to become the pre-eminent student society and to serve as a principal outlet for the dramatic and literary talent of the students. It had its own "Columbian Hall", which served as a reading room furnished with a library of classical authors, magazines and newspapers. It put on bi-monthly programs for its own members, consisting of orations, recitations, debates and an occasional musical number. For the public it staged plays and entertainments of a general interest in the College Auditorium. The Society still flourishes, though it now confines its activities to public dramas and has changed its name to Columbian Players.

A valuable auxiliary to the C.L.S. was the **Seifert Light Guards** (later Saint Joseph's Battalion), a military group. Together the two organizations planned and executed the celebration of the calendar festivals. On holidays the military, with the assistance of the College Band, would put on a series of fancy drills in the morning, and in the afternoon supervise athletic contests; the C.L.S. would close the evening with a literary program or play. Among the Military's equipment were some old U.S. Springfield rifles, a fact that brought uneasiness among some Protestants in Rensselaer who were afraid of the "emissaries of Rome". But the military organizations (there were soon several groups) were generally well received, and with the veterans

of the Grand Army of the Republic (Civil War veterans) participated in patriotic celebrations in the neighborhood. But having for its aim not only the acquisition of skill in military tactics, but principally the development of bodily health and strength, the military lost its main purpose with the development of a full athletic program. It declined over a number of years; uniforms and firearms were discarded in 1907 and the last drills were held in 1909.

- 1893     **The College Band**, organized in the Spring of 1893, owed its existence to the unexpected donation of a set of instruments by a benefactor. The players were all Community students, though later the band was open to others. To it was added a **College Choir**, and a few years later the **College Orchestra**. The musical organizations added immeasurably to the enjoyment and enrichment of college life.

On May 9th, 1893, a special **post office** was established at the College, and henceforth letters were to be addressed to Collegeville, Indiana. The first postmaster was the President of the College. The College still has its own post office, but it became a branch of the Rensselaer Post Office in 1958.

Though the 1891 Catalog boasted: "The college building is very spacious and is fitted out with all the improvements that can render it safe, pleasant and commodious, such as steam heating, gas, bath rooms, fire escapes, etc. etc.", we now read in the Catalog issued in the summer of 1893: "The success that attended the labors of the Faculty during the two year's existence of this Institution has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of all concerned. Owing to the numerous applications made a year ago, the Very Rev. Provincial and the Board of Trustees of the Society of the Precious Blood deemed it necessary **to build an addition** to the College for the year 1893-94. Accordingly a meeting of the officials was called in July, 1892, to take preliminary steps for carrying out this project. It was resolved immediate preparations should be made to erect an addition nearly as spacious as the old building." It should be noted that, though the College was a separate corporation, its Board of Trustees had the same membership as that of the Society of the Precious Blood. It was not till 1966 that the College had a separate Board.

- 1893-     The new addition to the north end of the College Building was completed  
1894 in time for the opening of the third year of school. The architect was DeCurtins of Carthagen, Ohio, and the contractor was the Medlands of Logansport. Another tower was erected; the building was lengthened from 135 to 228 feet, and could now accommodate 200 students in addition to all the other facilities, such as dining room, chapel, etc. It should be kept in mind that the students did not occupy individual rooms as they do today, but had common study halls, sleeping rooms (dormitories), locker rooms, and washrooms. The secular students, whose study-hall was known as **St. Aquino Hall**, occupied the north end of the building, and the Community students, whose

study-hall was known as **St. Xavier Hall**, occupied the south end of the building. Though they did most things in common, they were considered by some as practically two student bodies.

We find in this year's Catalog the same note addressed to parents that appeared in the first Catalog: "To guard students against all dangers that might be occasioned by frequent intercourse with persons not professing the Catholic religion, and to enable us to educate both heart and mind of those entrusted to us, according to strictly Catholic principles, **none but Catholic students** will be admitted." The policy of not admitting non-Catholic students stood until it was changed by the Board of Trustees in 1938.

**Discipline** was severe according to today's standards. We find repeated in later catalogs the following items among others that appeared in the first Catalog: "1) No student will be allowed to leave the college grounds . . . *without having first obtained permission to that effect* . . . Students who visit the town without permission are liable to be expelled. 2) The use of intoxicating liquors and tobacco is strictly forbidden. 3) All letters to students, and also those written by students, are subject to inspection by the rector. As a rule only Catholic papers will be tolerated. Letters and papers will be handed to students on afternoons of Wednesdays and Saturdays only, unless it be some important matter. 4) No student will be allowed to retain any money on entering the college. All money must be deposited with the treasurer, who will keep an account of such money and permit the owner to make use of it as prudence may suggest." By 1897 older students will be permitted to smoke pipe and cigars in restricted areas, and by the following year students will be allowed to retain pocket-money. In interpreting these regulations it should be remembered that not only did the College take seriously its position of *in loco parentis*, but many of the students were quite young, some as young as twelve years. Furthermore the rules were in line with the spirit of the times. "The nineteenth-century college was in many ways a logical extension of the nineteenth-century family. Colleges tended to be small . . . and extremely authoritarian . . . The curriculum was largely prescribed, and the pedagogy consisted mainly of daily assignments and recitations. Extracurricular life was also closely regulated." (Jencks and Riesman, *ibid.* pp. 29-30)

The school week was five full days, but instead of Wednesday afternoons, class was held on Saturday mornings. Community students worked on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, in addition to working an hour a day on other week days. They also remained all summer, except for a brief vacation, and worked. In return they received free room, board and tuition. The secular students did not work during the school year and went home for the summer.

**Father Clement Schuette** is listed for the first time among the faculty for the school year 1893-94. He was to become one of the outstanding men in

the early faculties of the college. He had a reputation for being an excellent teacher and a man of many parts. In addition to teaching Latin, Mathematics and commercial subjects, he directed German dramatic productions of the St. Boniface Literary Society, and for four years was the director of the band, orchestra and choir. He was the author of two books entitled *Principia Latina*, one for beginners in Latin and the other for second year. These two were followed by a third book entitled *Principia Grammaticae Latinae: A Latin Grammar for High Schools and Colleges*. The books were used for many years here at the College as well as at other schools. For a period of time he was the prefect of studies and for some years the post master, in which job he received high praises from the postal inspector. In addition, for many years he was the assistant at Saint Augustine's Church in Rensselaer. In the last year of his life he was the Spiritual Director for the students and gave a weekly conference which students eagerly looked forward to. His obituary notice observed: "Father Clement had a brilliantly versatile mind, accompanied by a generous, sympathetic heart . . . Those who sat at his feet any time during the thirty-five years of his professorship can bear witness to the versatility and accuracy of his knowledge, to the generosity and sympathy of his charity." (*Nuntius Aulae* 1928, pp. 176-77). He died February 27, 1928.

- 1894- The first issue of the **Saint Joseph's Collegian** appeared in November,  
 1895 1894, a printed College publication edited and written by the students. In the first issue we read: "The friends and patrons of St. Joseph's College have repeatedly urged that so large and important an educational institution should publish a College Journal . . . The members of the Faculty of the College have always appreciated the benefits accruing from the publication of a paper by the Columbian Literary Society known as the 'Columbian Journal', which was of a private nature and was read at the regular meetings of the C.L.S. The time, however, seems to have come to venture beyond the manuscript issue; hence the institution of a regular monthly Journal to be known as ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGIAN. The Collegian will be edited by the C.L.S.'" (*Collegian*, Vol. 1, Prospectus, p. 9) Later on the student body as a whole will be responsible for the journal. It was meant to give parents, students, faculty and friends an idea of what was being accomplished at the College. It had three main areas of interest: literary works by the students, a chronicle of College events, and a very limited account of alumni activities.

Father John Nageleisen launched **The Messenger** and its German edition **Der Botschafter**, both of which were monthly publications "in the interest of the Devotion of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord for the Holy Souls in Purgatory." (*The Messenger*, Vol. 1 p. 9). When Father Nageleisen left the College in 1896 and became a member of the clergy of the Archdiocese of New York, the two publications became the property of the Society of the Precious Blood. They were published and printed at the former Indian School (closed 1896) until 1922 when they were moved to Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio. Both papers have since ceased to be published.

On September 26th, 1894, the Statue of the Blessed Virgin was placed in the north tower of the College Building. This statue was rescued after the Administration Building burned in 1973 and now stands on the lawn east of Xavier Hall. The statue of Saint Joseph, placed in the south tower in 1892, crumbled after the fire when an attempt was made to remove it.

During this year other campus societies were organized, among them: 1) The Marian Society or Sodality, to promote devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, 2) The Eucharistic Union, to cultivate a special love for the Eucharist and the sanctuary. Following shortly after were these societies: 1) The **Saint Aloysius Literary Society** (1895), an adaptation of the Columbian Literary Society for the younger students, 2) the Saint Boniface Literary Society (1896), to help beginners to acquire a speaking knowledge of German. It also put on German dramas and organized the annual picnic and games on the banks of the Iroquois River to celebrate the feast of Saint Boniface, which in 1895 became a free day alongside the feast of Saint Patrick, 3) Teutonia (1898), an offshoot of the Saint Boniface Society, to promote knowledge of German literature among those thoroughly familiar with the language.

- 1895 This year saw the informal "graduation" of the first commercial student from the three-year program. The first formal graduation would wait till the following year. "The advanced classicals, those who had begun at Carthagenia, finished their course, but remained at the College for another year in the capacity of teachers and assistant prefects, a practice which was continued for a few years after . . . There was no formal closing of school until the first commencement other than the public examination, which had been conducted semi-annually from the time the college opened, in the presence of the entire faculty and many invited guests. The pastors of the students were usually present on these occasions, as also Bishop Rademacher. It need hardly be said how very unpopular these 'public exams' were to the students, and how the day was welcomed that saw this forever ended." (*Retrospect*, p. 41)

More importantly, the year 1895 saw the beginning of **organized sports**. The earliest sport to organize was baseball; this was on an intra-mural basis. In March The College Stars, representing the northside St. Aquino Hall (seculars), the first to organize, played their first game against a team from the southside called the Eagles, St. Xavier Hall (Community students). The College Stars re-organized in 1899 under the name of St. Joseph's College Baseball Club and in this capacity played two games with a Rensselaer team. In 1901 the first all-college team was organized and played teams from Rensselaer, Monon and Lowell.

Organized football began in the fall of 1895 when the Vigilants and the Defenders were organized. Both the enthusiasm and the number of students were diminished in 1901 when permission of parents was required to play because of the injuries resulting from the rough "cripple and kill" tactics.

Varsity football was born in 1905 with only secular students participating.

Organized tennis, begun in 1895, had some excellent teams and played some tournaments with Rensselaer clubs. Track held several meets with local teams. But these two sports appealed to only a small number of people at this time, though tennis was to become very popular in a few years. The most popular outdoor sports at this time were swimming, skating and hockey.

1896 The **Minim Department** was introduced in March. "Among the original boarders there had been a few small boys who had received such special attention as they required. Their management was not difficult after all, since St. Joseph's was little more than a large family. But the increase in the regular department was having a parallel now in the increasing number of the junior charges also. Hence the Minims. The first Minims were given their own section in the study hall . . . their own table in the refectory and their own corner in the general dormitory." (*Retrospect*, p. 37) But more was needed and thus a special Department was created in March 1896. The Saint Aloysius Literary Society, established the previous year when the Minims were ousted from the C.L.S., and modelled after the C.L.S., was now given formal recognition. There was established also among the Minims a society called St. Joseph's Acolytes, whose purpose was to supply servers for Church services. A **special building** was erected for the Minims in 1897, which later became **Gaspar Hall**. But the Minim Department was discontinued in 1903. The St. Aloysius Literary Society, however, remained as the junior literary society of the College. It eventually became the Newman Reading Circle, and when the various society libraries were incorporated into the general college library, it became the Newman Club, the drama society for the high school department.

June 16, 1896, saw the **first formal graduation**, confined to those students who had completed the five-year classical program (it will be a six-year program in 1897-98). There were twelve in the graduating class, all of them seminarians, eight secular and four Community students. The eight seculars went on to major seminaries to continue their studies for the priesthood. The four Community students remained at Saint Joseph's and under the title of scholastics became prefects of discipline and assistant instructors. The following year they would enter Saint Charles Seminary at Carthage, Ohio. One person finished the three-year Commercial Course and was preparing to enter pharmacy school at Purdue University. Another finished the three-year Normal Course and began teaching in Mercer County, Ohio, in the fall. The day after graduation, June 17th, the **Alumni Association** was formed.

On June 30th, 1896, the **last Indian pupils** left the Indian School, since the school was closed because funds had been withdrawn by the federal government. The property was first rented by the Society of the Precious Blood and then purchased by it in 1899. The buildings and land were donated to Saint Joseph's College in 1921. The building was used to house the



Messenger Press and its employees until 1922, at which time the press was moved to Carthagen, Ohio. After that the building was used partially as farm storage area, but stood largely idle until it was remodelled in 1937 as a student residence, and re-named Drexel Hall.

1897 This year saw the second graduating class, the first to receive the **Bachelor of Arts Degree**. The degree was not automatic upon graduating, but had to be earned. "Towards the end of each year a Board of Examiners will be appointed by the Faculty to examine the Graduating Class. Students making an average of 84% and not falling below 65% in any branch are entitled to the Degree A.B. . . . Every Candidate for the Degree of A.B. is required to compose an essay on some literary, scientific or moral subject proposed by the Faculty." (Catalog 1896-97) Of the sixteen graduates, ten received the A.B. Degree. Diplomas were given in the Commercial Program to those who completed the three-year course and made an average of 80% in the final examination. On Commencement Day there was a Solemn High Mass in the morning with a Baccaluaereate Sermon by Rev. Herman Alerding of Indianapolis, later Bishop of Fort Wayne. In the afternoon there were military exercises. In the evening there were the Exercises of the Graduating Class, consisting of musical numbers by the College Orchestra, a Piano and Violin Duet, Instrumental Quartette, the Salutatory, Class Oration, Latin Essay, German Oration, Class Poem, the Awarding of Premiums and Conferring of Degrees, and finally a farewell number by the College Choir. As was done for the First Commencement, on the preceding night the Junior Class put on a play in honor of the graduating Seniors, a custom that would continue for many decades.

1897- The Printing Press was set up at the former Indian School. For the first time beginning with the October Number, the *Collegian* was printed there. 1898 It had been first printed in Chicago and then in Rensselaer. Besides the *Collegian* three other publications were also being printed here: *The Messenger*, *Der Botschafter*, and *the Little Crusader*, the latter being a weekly four-page Sunday-School paper edited at Collegeville. The first two were monthlies published by the Spiritual Benevolent Fraternity, whose headquarters were at Collegeville. The Messenger Press also published books.

The **Minim building** was completed in time for the opening of the school year. The basement contained a gymnasium, a club room and several bath rooms. The first floor was the Music Department, and the second and third floors were for the Minims. Wires for electric lights were laid throughout the building, but electrical lighting was not introduced until 1905.

The **Raleigh Smoking Club** was organized. The earlier catalogs had forbidden the use of tobacco outright, but the 1896-97 Catalog changed the rule to read, "The use of tobacco is prohibited. Students, however, who furnish a written request from their parents or guardians that permission to use tobacco be granted, will be allowed to smoke at certain times and under certain restric-



*From left to right: Main Building completed 1893; some farm buildings; old orphanage school house used to house workers; Minim Building erected 1897*

tions. Cigarettes and chewing tobacco are absolutely prohibited." In the course of time smoking was limited to those eighteen years of age and to the Raleigh Hall and the Raleigh Grove. Smoking of cigarettes, of course, went on surreptitiously, and under-age smokers were known as "junior halers." It would be the middle 1930's before cigarettes would be allowed.

- 1898 This year's Catalog, like everyone before it, refers to an artificial lake in front of the main building. "The new school was built on a rise literally surrounded by swampland. One of these swamp holes became the pond now located near the main campus entrance. For many years this was no more than a mud-bottom pool that produced frogs and a few snakes during warm summers." (BE, p. 87) The lake was a source of ice, cut in the winter time and stored away for use in the summer. After erection of the water tower in 1911, a fountain was built in the middle and later a concrete bottom and walls with decorative pillars and circular sidewalk were made. Today, known as a pond rather than a lake, it remains with its gold fish one of the beauty spots of the campus.

In the first Catalog and in the next six we meet this rule of discipline: "All undue familiarity is strictly forbidden." The 1897-98 catalog expands this to read: "All undue familiarity is strictly forbidden, i.e. the students are warned against keeping too frequent and exclusive company with one and the same of their fellow-students; on the contrary, all students should consider and treat one another as brethren." No doubt the regulation was directed not only against cliquishness but against the problems that could arise in a close all-male community, especially for the majority of students who at this time were seminarians preparing for a life of celibate chastity.

**The Lourdes Grotto** was built during the summer of 1898 in the southwest grove under the inspiration and direction of Faustin Ersing, a C.P.P.S. student, and dedicated on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8th, 1898. It commemorates the appearance of the Virgin Mary to Saint Bernadette at Lourdes, and the grotto thus contains the statues of both. It was greatly enlarged and an interior cave added in the summer of 1931.

- 1899- Father Seifert left Saint Joseph's College on August 5th, 1899, to re-  
1900 organize and supervise the curriculum at Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio. He will return for another eleven years as president in November 1902. His first term saw not only the Main building practically doubled in size, the erection of the Minim Building and enlargement of the enrollment to 120, but more importantly the establishment of institutions and traditions that would identify the College and its way of life long after he himself was gone.

## 1899-1902: SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND BENEDICT BOEBNER, C.P.P.S.

Father Boebner was on the first faculty at the opening of the College in 1891 and was the Vice President until he became President, serving also during those years as teacher and prefect of discipline. Between 1892 and 1895 he helped organize the Columbian Literary Society, the first College Band, baseball and football teams, the Choir, the Collegian, and the military team which became known as the Boebner Columbian Guards, for which he is probably best remembered. When Father Seifert returned from Saint Charles Seminary in 1902, Boebner was sent there as rector for two years. In 1916 he returned to Rensselaer and took up residence in the old Indian School and became the editor of the two C.P.P.S. monthly publications, *The Messenger* and its German-language counterpart, *Der Botschafter*. He followed the printing press to Saint Charles Seminary in 1922 and continued as editor of *The Messenger* until 1933, the golden anniversary of his ordination. He died February 7, 1937, the same year that saw the death of his predecessor, Father Seifert.

1900 The College erected **an enormous barn**, supposedly the largest in the State of Indiana. It was a bank barn, with the dairy department in the basement, standing where Halleck Center is now. Built near it were also two silos. The barn and silos were torn down in 1953 to make room for Bennett Hall, and the dairy operation was moved to a new location a mile west of the College.

1901- This was the tenth year of the College's existence. "The College observ-  
1902 ed its first decennial in September, 1901. The prominent feature of the celebra-  
tion was the presence of several Seculars of the class of '96, who returned to the reunion as priests . . . Their ordination had occurred in the preceding June . . . Because they had 'lost' a year in teaching and prefecting after the completion of classics, none of the original band of scholastics (Community Students) who had finished in 1895 nor their companions in the Congregation who had been graduated in 1896, were ordained earlier than 1902." (*Retrospect*, pp. 44-45)

In the meeting that took place during the tenth anniversary celebration, September 3-5, the Alumni voted unanimously to establish an "Alumni Fund, which is always to remain open, and to be increased gradually and continually by each Alumnus, according to his means and good will." *The Collegian* also announced that it would from then on carry a monthly Alumni Column. "Since our Alumni have now become a thoroughly organized body and will continue to increase their ranks yearly, we have, in consideration to their expressed wishes, inserted an Alumni Column in the Collegian . . . Hence the Faculty of St. Joseph's and the Editors of the Collegian unite in asking each Alumnus without exception to favor us frequently with a brief account of his pursuits, his success, and many other little items which he thinks might

interest us or his fellow Alumni." (p. 38) The Alumni never responded with any great rush of information.

- 1902 In the spring, **intercollegiate sports** were born when the baseball team played Saint Vincent College of Chicago. The game was played at Saint Joseph's. Even though Saint Vincent had a strong team and an undefeated season and were expected to walk away with the game, they won by the narrow margin of 8-6. Buoyed up by this good showing the Saint Joseph's team resolved to play only college teams in future years. Up to this time they had played high school and small town teams. Later records would show that the resolution was not kept.

For the first time more degrees went to the Normal and Commercial departments than to the Classical. Out of a total senior class of twenty, there were five who received the Bachelor of Arts Degree, six who received certificates in the Normal Course and six in the Commercial Course. Three received neither a degree nor a certificate.

On June 29, 1902, the **Turner Verein**, an acrobatic club, was organized, though it had existed informally since 1900 when the gymnasium, which had been set up in the north wing basement of the Main Building in that year, received some equipment. The first exhibition was on Thanksgiving Day, 1902. The Turners were a very active club, one year putting on as many as fourteen performances, which were generally on the stage and accompanied by music from the band. The Turner Club reached its height some ten years later under the enthusiastic coaching of Father Albin Scheidler.

### **1902-1913: THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND AUGUSTINE SEIFERT, C.P.P.S.**

- 1902-1903 Father Seifert returned November 1, 1902, for his second term as President. Father Benedict Boebner took his place as rector of Saint Charles Seminary. The reason that the exchange of places occurred in November rather than the beginning of the academic year was that Father Seifert had been attending a General Chapter of the Congregation of the Most Precious Blood in Rome.
- 1903 Basketball was introduced in the second semester. Class teams were organized and a regular schedule of games was arranged between various teams. But the game would not get going in a big way until the opening of the new gymnasium in 1905. There was also reference to a boxing match, "a fine exhibition of the manly art." We learn in April that the Community students were not permitted to play on the "representative" or varsity team. This prohibition in reference to the Community students will fluctuate over the years.

The school year was closed early, May 15th, 1903, because of small pox in Rensselaer. "The authorities of the College hardly believed the condition of affairs serious enough to allow the students to go home, but still in case the disease did break out at St. Joseph's, they did not wish to bear the responsibility which would be theirs in case they refused the boys permission to return home and small-pox should happen to find its way into St. Joseph's. So the matter was left entirely to the discretion of the students. A few left for home, and this naturally induced others to do the same, until finally it was but a short time when all, except the graduates, had gone home. . . . It is now two weeks since the out-break of the disease in Rensselaer . . . . At present time there is not a single case of small-pox in Rensselaer . . . . We think that the recent actions of the students in leaving the College were entirely too hasty and uncalled for." (*The Collegian*, June 1903, p. 486) There were no commencement exercises that year.

- 1904 There is reported an unusually successful drama by the Columbian Literary Society, the musical drama "King Saul". "It is safe to say that no drama enacted at St. Joseph's received quite as much critical attention or careful rehearsal as that given by Father Weyman to the staging of 'King Saul'. Enacted three times at the College, it was afterwards played before enthusiastic audiences at Lafayette and Indianapolis, and was made the subject of very complimentary notices in the public press." (*Retrospect*, p. 51)

The past several Catalogs had been promising a new gymnasium. The dream is coming closer to reality. The June 1904 number of *The Collegian* reports with great joy and anticipation: "At last we are to have a gymnasium . . . . It will cover a ground area of 10,000 square feet . . . the new building will have the most beautiful exterior of any on the grounds when finished . . . . The total length of the building . . . is 120 feet and its width 95 feet. The length of each nave is 70 feet, and width 16 feet." (p. 426) It will contain two bowling alleys, club rooms, a concert hall and a large stage, and a large room for special gymnastic and indoor games such as basketball, military drills, etc.

- 1904- The 1904-05 Catalog for the first time listed the Normal Course as four  
1905 years rather than the three years required up till this time. The Commerical program remained three years.

A new powerhouse was built in 1904. The old one "stood immediately behind the old Administration building during 1891-1904, and it was felt it stood too close for either safety or cleanliness . . . . In 1904 when the 'Old Gym' was just being built, a new powerhouse was built farther west from the first one. Today this same building houses the campus post office and janitorial department, and its only external changes have been removal of the smoke stack and coal bins on the west side." (BE, p. 82)

**Father Ildephonse Rapp** joined the faculty. He was destined to make a

profound impression upon three decades of students, through his direction of the band, but mainly through his elocution classes and his enthusiastic direction of plays and programs. Already as a student he made his mark in the field of dramatics. *The Collegian* for March 1900 (p. 273) reports on his role in "William Tell": "Mr. Rapp's appearance in the title-role was sufficient guarantee for perfect success of the hero's part . . . Mr. Rapp is undoubtedly the first actor in the college, and his praise has already found echoes far beyond the walls of our Alma Mater." As a professor he taught Elocution, Latin, Rhetoric, Religion and Arithmetic. He directed the band for eighteen years, the Columbian Literary Society for twenty-eight and the Newman Club for twenty years in 150 major and 300 minor productions, as well as in a vast number of lesser literary programs. He was a rugged individualist who rode a motorcycle with zest, took early morning walks with vigor, annually climbed the water tower, equipped with binoculars, until his 75th birthday (and would have gone beyond if not forbidden by his religious superior). He was on the faculty for thirty years, was away as a Sisters' Chaplain for six, and back for another ten years. He retired from teaching in 1949, but remained active in other ways on campus until four years before his death on June 15, 1973 at the age of 96. Even now countless alumni remember him as one not easily forgotten.

- 1905     The **new gymnasium** was dedicated on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1905. "While dedicated to athletics the new building had been designed to meet also the requirements of commencement exercises and dramatic entertainment . . . On the day of dedication it was considered the *ne plus ultra* of its kind." (*Retrospect*, p. 50) The building stood where the east wing of the Science Building stands today. The gymnasium would burn to the ground in 1914 and be replaced the same year by the present Science Building, except for the west classroom and science wing which was added in 1936.

With the transfer of many activities to the new gymnasium building, the Main Building could in 1905 accommodate about 200 students. The enrollment for the school year 1904-05 was 154, and would be 169 the following year.

The dedication day also marked the initiation of an Elocution Contest, the Senior Elocution Class contending for the Gold Medal offered by the President of the College. In time this was to be known as the **Conroy Oratory Contest** and was to become one of the great events in the calendar each spring. The prizes would be furnished by Monsignor Thomas Conroy of Fort Wayne, a member of the first graduation class, after whom the contest was named.

- 1905-     **Brother Fidelis Baker** came to Saint Joseph's as a study hall and dormitory prefect in 1905 to join Brother William Druecker, better known as **Brother Cob** (probably a corruption of cop), who had come to the campus in 1898. Brother William was to remain a prefect till a year before his death,
- 1906





*From left to right: Main Building (1893), smoke stack of old powerhouse (1904), Minim Building (Gaspar Hall) (1897), old orphan school house used to house workers, farm building, old gymnasium (1905)*

which occurred on the eve of Alumni Day, May 13, 1930. Many of those who gathered for the Alumni Day had been under his vigilant care and remembered him as a model and an exemplary religious. Those who knew him well considered him a living saint. Brother Fidelis, too, remained in his job for over thirty years, until 1936 when illness forced him to retire. He died March 30, 1941. Kind and sympathetic by nature he was considered a real friend by all students.

Brothers William and Fidelis were prefects of discipline in the study halls and dormitories when these were still common rooms. Because of their long time on the job they came into contact with and helped to mold the lives of hundreds of young men and it would be difficult to weigh the influence for good that they had over the young men who were in their formative years. But when we single them out for special notice, it is not to neglect the many others who held similar positions through the years. Nor do we overlook the many other Brothers who have worked in the other areas — farms, lawns, library, garage, powerhouse, gardens, mailing room, infirmary, offices, etc. Their contributed service has been vital to the growth and maintenance of the College, often as valuable as that of the faculty (of which some have also been and are Brothers).

In the November number of the 1905 *The Collegian* (p. 45) we find these developments reported: "When the students returned from their summer vacation . . . they found another study-hall arranged for the higher classes of St. Aquino's Hall. Nearly all the professors have moved from the main building to **St. Caecilia's Hall**, making room for the new study-hall and several additional class-rooms . . . The first floor of St. Caecilia's Hall has been fitted up for the use of visitors. These changes were made possible by the erection of the Gymnasium . . . Finally we must mention the introduction of **electric light**, to take the place of acetelyne. The stage and gymnasium hall are especially benefited by it, but it is welcomed in every part of the college." The St. Caecilia's Hall referred to was the former Minim Building, later called Gaspar Hall. In 1899 the music department, which had occupied the first floor from the beginning, expanded to the second floor, and the building was then called St. Caecilia's Hall after St. Caecilia, patroness of music.

With reference to the introduction of electric lights, the *Rensselaer Republican* for July 25, 1905, said: "An agreement had been entered into by Mayor Ellis and the Council Committee on Electric Lights and Rev. August Seifert, Rector of St. Joseph's College, whereby the college is hereafter to be lighted by electricity from the Rensselaer city plant." It is interesting to note that such an agreement was ready for signature by the Board of Trustees at the beginning in 1891, but was never signed, perhaps because of cost.

1906      On June 3 of this year was born **the Athletic Association**, a student-run

organization, which for many years to come was to take under its care all athletic interests. Membership in the Association was required of all secular students and their dues financed its work. A faculty director governed the affairs of the organization.

The eleventh annual commencement on June 19th was to be both a joyous and a sad occasion. In addition to graduation it was the occasion for the public celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ordination of the President, Father August Seifert, whose classmates were present to add to the festivities. But the day was saddened by the sudden **death of Edward J. Pryor**, who had been the editor of *The Collegian* in his senior year and had written much for the journal, was popular among students and faculty, and had been chosen valedictorian of his class. On the day before, as commander of Company C, he had welcomed the bishop to the campus. An hour before the commencement play was to begin on the eve of graduation he died suddenly. It was decided to proceed with the graduation exercises but with the omission of all music and all other expressions of joy. His valedictory talk was read the next day by his classmate, Michael Shea, who was later to be memorialized for his contribution to the present C.P.P.S. dining room. The Saint Lawrence stained glass window in Chapel is in memory of Edward J. Pryor.

On the afternoon of graduation day the Alumni held their meeting which was well attended. At this meeting it was decided to award annually a gold medal of twenty-five dollars for the best essay in English. This was to become the **Alumni Essay Contest**, which along with the Conroy Oratory Contest was for three decades a powerful stimulus toward excellence in student literary endeavors.

At the same Alumni meeting it was also "voted to discontinue the Alumni Fund, and to donate it to the College without reserve, and to raise a special fund for an Alumni Memorial when called upon to do so. As a mark of affection, a purse was presented to the Rev. Rector, which the latter accepted with thanks and expressions of love." (*The Collegian*, 1906, p. 226)

The 1906-07 Catalog included for the first time a program of Civil Engineering. Included were Land Surveying, Railroad Surveying, and instruction in lettering, drawing, etc. A layman, experienced in engineering, was hired to teach the needed courses.

- 1907     A large building was erected (completed in Spring of 1908) as an infirmary and to accomodate visitors, known as **Dwenger Hall**, named after Bishop Joseph Dwenger of Fort Wayne. It also provided four spacious rooms in the front corners on both floors for faculty residences. It was designed by Father Seifert, and the work was largely done by Community students under the supervision of Father Seifert and a contractor. With the completion of Dwenger Hall, visitors' accommodations were removed from Saint

Caecilia's, which then became known as the Faculty Building, even though some students continued to live there for awhile.

- 1908- We read in the 1908-09 Catalog: "Owing to the increased attendance of  
1909 the last few years, which taxed the capacity of the chapel to the utmost, it was decided to erect a Church, which is now in the course of construction . . . It will, no doubt, be one of the finest college churches in the country. Some fifty feet west of the Church will be erected a Sisters' house, in which there will also be the kitchen and the storeroom. It is thought that the space gained by the vacation of the Chapel, the Sisters' quarters, store-rooms, etc. will afford accommodation for about a hundred students in addition to the two hundred residing here at present."

With respect to enrollment, for the school year 1908-09 it was 222, of whom 200 were in the first four years, which we would today call high school, and the other 22 were on the college level. (It was reported in the *Rensselaer Republican* that 50 students had been turned aside for lack of space.) The proportion between high school and college level students is reflected in the graduation statistics for the following spring. There were four Bachelor of Arts degrees, two certificates in the Normal Program, thirteen certificates in the Commercial Program and two certificates in the Civil Engineering Program. Only B.A. degrees were on the college level. There were two other students in the Class of 1909 who did not receive a degree or certificate.

The November 27, 1908, issue of the *Rensselaer Republican* reported: "When it was first determined to erect new buildings this year, the Board of Directors of the Community of the Precious Blood . . . thought it would be advisable to erect a community building for the Rector, Father August Seifert, and the priests and faculty, but after some consideration it was decided that the erection of a chapel would better serve the interests of the school at this time . . . Now that the erection of the community building has been deferred for the chapel and sisters' house, it is probable that the community house will be the next improvement and it is suggested that this will be located west of the chapel." The erection of this community house was to wait until 1962 when Schwietermann Hall was built south of the chapel. But that was not the only plan that was postponed. According to the *Rensselaer Republican* the chapel itself had been planned already in 1891. "If as now seems certain, the college opens with a freshman class of 50 or more, additional buildings will have to be erected within a year or two. In fact, plans are already made for a chapel building, entirely separate from the present main building." (*Rensselaer Republican*, August 27, 1891) That plan, of course, as we have just seen, was not fulfilled until seventeen years later.

- 1909 **The corner stone of the Chapel** was laid on May 2, 1909. "An imposing structure in Romanesque style, its size would really require it to be called a church. The nave has a seating capacity of 600." (*Retrospect*, p. 53)

On Tuesday, June 15th, 1909, the day before the 14th annual Commencement Exercises, the Alumni Association presented a flagstaff to the College. It was 110 feet tall and stood on the southwest edge of the grove north of the pond. It was moved in the bicentennial year of the Nation and now stands on the terrace in front of Halleck Center.

The July 1909 issue of *The Collegian* also carried this interesting note about the electrical lighting on campus: "Although we have been receiving the best of service from the Rensselaer powerhouse, which until lately furnished the light for the College, we are pleased to have now a plant of our own. It is slightly more economical and we can now have the light at all hours. **Brother Henry Olberding**, our genial and willing engineer, is more than able to take care of it, and he enjoys to do it, especially since he has been provided with a new office, from which he may give or withhold light and power just as he pleases." (*The Collegian*, July, 1909, p. 214) The powerhouse had been erected in 1904, but this new capacity consisted in the installation of **DC generators**. Brother Henry was one of the many capable Brothers who dedicated their talents to the service of the College. He was a self-made boilerman, who through extensive reading and study had become an expert on matters pertaining to heat, water and light. He came to Saint Joseph's in 1904, worked in the powerhouse for 31 years, and died in 1955 at the age of 81.

1909- The school year 1909-1910 will be the last year for the *St. Joseph's Col-*  
1910 *legian* until it will be revived in 1927. The reason given for its suspension was that the overworked faculty did not have time to supervise it. That the faculty advisor or director did more than just supervise is clear from a rather pointed remark of the student editor in the November, 1905, number: "We think it proper to state that our first article, 'Hamlet at the Opening of the Play', was much corrected and also amplified by the director." By 1909 the quality of the publication as a literary journal had declined, resulting in shorter articles, more poetry and greater emphasis on athletics and other local news.

In September 1909 at the opening of school the **Sisters' quarters** and the dining room beneath the chapel were almost finished. The Sisters worked at the College and occupied the Convent until 1958. Though the exact time is not clear, probably some time after the erection of the chapel, the following two buildings were also built: the carpenter shop, which is now the computer center, and the laundry south of it, which burned to the ground on May 17, 1976.

It is not inappropriate at this time to express the gratitude that Saint Joseph's College owes to the Sisters of the Precious Blood for their contribution to the existence and welfare of the institution. For many years they worked hard and long hours in the heat of the kitchen and the laundry where modern facilities and conveniences were not available. Though paid a modest sum, for all practical purposes, like that of the priests and brothers, theirs too was a contributed service.

- 1910     **The chapel was dedicated** on May 17, 1910. At the dedication Thomas Marshall, Governor of Indiana, gave a stirring speech on the value of Catholic Education. "I like many things about the Catholic Church," he said, "and I'm not coward enough to conceal them in the State of Indiana. I believe no man is educated for the high and responsible duties of American citizenship unless trained to understand that he supports them because of an omnipotent God . . . And why should I not be proud to be present upon an occasion such as this, at an institution such as this, where these young men are trained in a liberal education, an education which teaches them their duties to the family, an education which teaches them duties to their state, an education which teaches them their duties to the God of their fathers?" (*Retrospect*, pp. 53-54)

With the dedication of the chapel in 1910, Father Seifert's work was essentially finished. The College's physical plant had grown to six major buildings on an 80-acre campus, the student body was up from 54 to 322 and the original faculty of six now stood at 24. Saint Joseph's had reached something of a plateau at this point. Though there would be important curriculum changes under Father Ignatius Wagner, there would be no significant addition in enrollment, faculty or buildings until 1936 when the College would make the major decision to become a senior college.

- 1911     The **water tower**, which stands today yet, was erected during the year 1911. It "stands more than 170 feet tall and holds 50,000 gallons of water. The new tower replaced an inadequate wooden tank that had previously occupied one of the towers of the Administration Building. Several improvements were made possible by the water tower, first of which was the laying of underground piping to several buildings with occasional hydrants to provide aid against fire." (BE, p. 87) Another improvement was indoor plumbing.



*From left to right: Sisters' House (1910); laundry (1910); Carpenter shop (1910); old powerhouse with smoke stack (1904); water tower (1911)*

**Father Justin Henkel, C.P.P.S.**, returned to the faculty and was destined to gain fame as an outstanding musician and self-made composer. He had first joined the faculty in 1897 immediately after his ordination, as a teacher of vocal music and director of the choir, giving special attention to Gregorian Chant and other forms of church music. He taught for seven years, was gone for seven and returned for another fourteen years. Though well versed in many areas, it was for his work as choir director and composer that he was best known. "His compositions are a real treasure for any musical library; they ought to live as long as there is a choir to sing them. They are a glowing tribute to a gifted musician, inspired by the liturgy of the Church." (*Nuntius Aulæ*, July 1931, p. 173)

- 1912- **Father Ignatius Wagner** joined the faculty, having gained a Ph.D. in  
 1913 Chemistry at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was the first C.P.P.S. member of the faculty to earn a graduate degree. Many more will follow from this date on. For the time being he will be teaching Mathematics, Botany, and English. But he was destined for much greater things, first as President of the College and later as Provincial of the Society of the Precious Blood, the only man to hold both offices.
- 1913 **Father Augustine Seifert resigned**, having served as President for 19 years. The announcement was made on June 19th, the day after graduation. The reason given was an inability to cope with the burdens of the presidency because of declining health. He spent the rest of his active life as a Sisters' chaplain, and the last four years in retirement at Saint Charles Seminary.

### 1913-1916: FOURTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND HUGH LEAR, C.P.P.S.

Father Hugh Lear (his name appears as Hugo in C.P.P.S. records but as Hugh in College records) first made his appearance on Jasper County soil when he worked at the Indian School in 1889 while a novice in preparation for entrance into the Society of the Precious Blood. He joined the faculty in 1899 as a teacher of Pedagogy, Physiology, Physical Geography and Penmanship. He became head of the Normal Department in 1904. Though his term as president might be seen by some as an interim between the nineteen-year term of Father Seifert and the nine-year term of Father Wagner, there will be some significant developments in the administration of the College and of the curriculum. After leaving the College he spent the rest of his priestly life as chaplain for the Sisters of Saint Agnes at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and for the Sisters of Notre Dame in Milwaukee. He died at Saint Charles Seminary May 15, 1932.

- 1913- One of the first things that Fr. Lear did was to expand the Administration  
 1914 to relieve the President of some of the crushing burdens, borne alone by Father



Seifert during his many years. The size of the student body alone dictated such re-organization. The new Board of Administration consisted of Fathers Hugh Lear, President, Nicholas Greiwe, Vice President, Justin Henkel, treasurer (variously designated as economist or procurator), Theodore Sauer, Prefect of Discipline, and Father Ignatius Wagner, Secretary and Prefect of Studies, plus Fathers Arnold Weyman and Pius Kanney.

The task of making necessary **curriculum reforms** would fall to Father Wagner, who had just recently returned from his university studies. The most immediate evidence of his hand can be seen in the 1914 Catalog, which in the area of instruction, unlike its predecessors, looks much like the present Catalog. In addition to the listing of courses by requirements for each of the program areas, courses are now listed also by Department, with an introductory paragraph followed by a description of each course.

A major decision of the new administration was to enlarge the gymnasium. The project consisted in lifting the entire building ten feet to provide another story and in adding a large section to the west end for the departments of chemistry and physics. A deficiency in the natural sciences had been felt from the beginning. From 1895 down to 1913 inclusive, the Catalogs carried this note: "Although this college does not presume to offer a complete scientific course, nevertheless special efforts are made to impart to its students a general knowledge in the various branches." This somewhat apologetic tone will be replaced by a much more confident one in 1915: "With the completion of the new laboratories during the past year the institution is better than ever prepared to teach the natural sciences." In 1895 particular attention was given to Physiology and Hygiene, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, and Chemistry. In 1897 Botany and Geology were added. With respect to Geology we find this interesting course description, so unlike what one would find in a College Catalog today: "In Geology, including Mineralogy and Biology, there will be treated in accordance with the conservative views and principles of our Church: The Mosaic Record and Geology, Evolution, the Deluge, and God's testimony written in Nature's Book." The statement will disappear in the 1915 Catalog, and under the Department of Science the Catalog, after a general introductory paragraph, will list only a one semester course in General Science, a one year course in Physics, and a two year course in Chemistry. Biology and Geology, however, will re-appear later, and in 1936 and 1937 respectively become major departments.

The **College Cheer** made its appearance on campus in 1913. When *The Collegian* ceased to be published in 1910, there was founded a paper called *Diamond Dust*: "A Weekly Paper for Home and Family". It was "published every Wednesday at 4:00 P.M. (if weather permits) for the purpose of furthering the interest in our national sports and creating a spirit of good humor among the students." It remained until replaced by *College Cheer*, the first issue of which in September 1913 tells us: "In publishing this little

paper, although in point of form we have retained *Diamond Dust* as our model, we propose to furnish you news not only during the baseball season, but throughout the entire school year . . . While the subject of athletics will necessarily occupy its share of our space, we propose to offer you all the news of general interest, giving our readers all the worthwhile happenings at home of the Purple and Cardinal . . . We want every reader of the 'Cheer' to be one of its editors. Think up little original poems, incidents and stories that have the snap of college life in them." It began as a four-page printed publication, one page of which was advertising, and became eight pages and bi-weekly in 1916. It was written and published by the students, without a faculty moderator, and was supported by subscriptions and advertising. It was not meant to be a literary journal as *The Collegian* had been, though it would come closer to being one as time went on. *The Collegian* was always a College publication, written by students and supervised by the Faculty, whereas *College Cheer* was the official organ of the student body.

The same issue of *Cheer* (September 24, 1913) has this bit of news: "The year 1913, unlucky though it may seem, marks the initiation of a second generation into our ranks in the person of Clarence Dirksen whose father, Frank Dirksen, became a member of the S.J.C. Alumni in the year 1893. He has the singular honor of being the first student whose father calls St. Joseph's his Alma Mater." Frank Dirksen was to have three more sons who would graduate from Saint Joseph's College, one of whom would become its 10th President.

1914     The biggest event of this year has to be the **burning of the gymnasium**. The work of renovating it was barely finished when, about 4 A.M. on April 2, 1914, early-rising students noticed that the "Old Gym" was on fire. The students sought to rescue equipment as long as their safety allowed, but there was no saving the building. The loss was a profound shock, because not only was a major building lost, but of the total estimated loss of \$75,000 only \$25,000 was covered by insurance.

But some of the faculty considered the fire a blessing in disguise because not only had the once handsome building become unsightly through its elevation and addition of another story, but because even with the re-modeling it was inadequate for the growing needs of the College in science, athletics, music, assembly, and concerts. Now a suitable building could be erected. But where was the money to come from? The Society of the Precious Blood came to the rescue by generously appropriating money for the erection of the present Science Hall (minus the west wing), a much more adequate building, nearly double the size of the old gym. Work on Science Hall began in the summer of 1914 and it would be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1915.

Though the present Science Building (minus the west wing erected in 1936) is the same one built in 1914, internal arrangements are much different. On-

ly the chemistry, auditorium and music areas remain as they were originally. The building was in three sections, proclaimed by words of three-foot high lettering: Science, Gymnasium, Music. The outer names remain today, and if viewed closely the imprint of the middle one can still be detected. On the south end Chemistry occupied the third floor, and physics the second in the space now taken up by the classrooms outside the auditorium. There was no lobby in front of the auditorium, but only a narrow corridor like the one outside the balcony on the third floor. The first floor was the Raleigh Smoking Club and shower rooms, now occupied by the library reference room. The basement contained washrooms and store rooms. The top of the middle section was the auditorium and stage as at present. Underneath was a basketball floor and locker room surrounded on three sides by a balcony. The area is now occupied by the library stack and staff rooms. The basement and first floor of the north end made up the gymnastics room (known as Turner Hall), except that on the west end the first floor held a club room for those not old enough to smoke, and the basement an athletic equipment room. The whole now belongs to the library. The second floor on the north end was the music department as now, and the third floor was the library. Between then and now there were other changes, too, that need not occupy us here.

At the Commencement in 1914 the Bachelor of Arts Degree was granted for the last time until Saint Joseph's became a four-year college. Meanwhile diplomas will be granted for completion of the six-year classical program (Junior College), and for completion of the four-year programs (High School or Academy), and certificates for the others. The 1914 Catalog lists the following programs of study: the Six-Year Classical Course, meant primarily for seminarians; The Four-Year Classical Course, intended to meet the entrance requirements of law, medical, and engineering schools; The English Modern Language Course, which was the same as the four-year classical program except that it substituted a modern foreign language for Latin, and would meet requirements of engineering schools only, not law and medicine; The Commercial Scientific Course, a four-year program which included a modern foreign language and Physics; The Three-Year Business or Commercial Course, in which a foreign language and physics were optional; The Two-Year Commercial course for those who came with some transfer work.

The Normal Program was no longer offered. The 1913 Catalog carried the following announcement: "Since the requirements of several States for teaching licenses are now practically those of a Classical or Scientific Course, we shall not offer a special course for teachers after September, 1914, but suggest that students desiring to enter the teaching profession complete either our Classical or our Scientific Course and then acquire their professional training in one or the other of the State Normal Schools." (p.37) An Education Department, preparing students for secondary teaching, will be established in 1936.

It was customary to grant a free day after quarterly examinations. When the secular students returned from their Easter vacation in 1914 they expected a free day, and when they did not get it, 156 of them went on strike refusing to go to class, but gathered outside on the lawn. When the Prefect of Discipline went out to talk to them he was greeted with jeers and hand claps so loud that some reported hearing the noise in Rensselaer. Seven students were expelled, mainly for previous violations. "But the faculty . . . determined to make the punishment such that it would leave no question in the future as to what such unruly conduct would bring forth." (*The Evening Republican*, May 1, 1914)

- 1915 The College at this time obtained its **water supply** from two artesian wells. It should be noted that after 1904 the water was obtained from wells with a strong sulphur content that produced its own very distinct odor and taste and discoloration of plumbing fixtures. Some students found the water nearly impossible to drink and preferred the use of several hand-pump wells on campus that produced fresh water. But most students rapidly adjusted to sulphur water and even considered it a boon to health. In 1945 non-sulphur wells were drilled in a gravel vein a half-mile southwest of the College, and they have been providing sulphur-free water for the College ever since.

Under the heading of PROGRESS, the January 13, 1915 *College Cheer* gives us these items: "The lake in the front park has been dredged and a good bottom of cement has been put down (1912). A wide cement walk completely circles the lake and branches off into the two main walks on the southside of the lake. Two years ago a firm and ornamental **bandstand** was erected in the southeast corner of the northside campus. The bandstand is appreciated most in the summer months. Without it the players would be at a decided disadvantage. One of the latest improvements is the lighting of the campus and the road running through the college grounds . . . In the evening when the lights are all blazing forth their radiance, St. Joe reminds one of a summer resort in a holiday evening attire." The bandstand, no longer in use, was torn down in October 1963.

- 1915- The 1915 Catalog states that "The Purpose of the College is . . . primarily  
1916 to prepare students for the studies of the Seminary in preparation for the Holy Priesthood." Yet the other students were a vital part of the institution. Thus in the 1914 graduation class 18 degrees were conferred on seminarians and 17 on other students.

Among the entrance requirements we learn that: "The applicant must have completed successfully the eighth grade of common school work. The College maintains an eighth grade class for such as are found after admission to be unprepared for the work of the First Academic Year, in certain branches." This was what was originally called The Preparatory Course, and it will continue to be offered for some years. The term Minim as an academic

distinction dropped out of the Catalog after 1899, but was retained for at least fifteen years as a designation of an athletic league until replaced by the term Midgets.

- 1916 We read in the *College Cheer* for January 19, 1916: "Owing to the disagreeable weather Dwenger Hall has been doing a rushing business, accommodating more than fifty students." A more ominous event is reported in the February 2nd number: "On January 21st, it was discovered that twelve cases of **scarlet fever** had developed among those students confined to the Infirmary . . . The Infirmary was at once placed under a strict quarantine and all other persons forbidden to leave the premises. In the course of the next few days ten or twelve more cases appeared among the student body . . . The Sisters of St. Francis from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lafayette, Ind. assumed charge of the sick . . . At the present writing there are over thirty cases of the fever." In addition to rooms on the first and second floors of Dwenger Hall there were two dormitories on the third floor for the use of sick students.

In the first third of the College's existence a student epidemic of one kind or another — mumps, pink-eye, measles, small pox, influenza — was an annual affair. The frequency of epidemics was no doubt the result of students living closely together without the many immunizations that people have today. Often times general sickness spread after students returned from Christmas vacation; perhaps they not only picked up germs of various kinds at home, but their physical fitness was impaired by too much eating and celebrating during the holidays. We also hear frequently of student deaths. Thus in the second semester of this year 1915-16 the student paper reported the death of Henry Lackenburger on January 18th from pneumonia; of Erwin Leopold on February 1st from blood poisoning arising from tonsilitis and an appendicitis operation; of Raymond Schwartz on April 3rd from a severe attack of rheumatism; of Joseph McNulty on June 4th, after an appendicitis operation. Another frequent killer was tuberculosis.

With the completion of the new auditorium (Alumni Hall) a Powers Cameragraph, a **movie projector**, was installed, for the showing of motion pictures, which became a regular entertainment feature. "Our moving picture machine will be one of our chief attractions this year in the way of pleasure. We had a show on Sunday evening . . . which proved very pleasing to the entire student body and also to the faculty . . . Two comedies and a part of the *Talisman* and a reel of zoology were shown." (*College Cheer*, Sept. 23, 1916)

This year, 1916, saw the origin of **the parade** into Rensselaer on Saint Patrick's Day. Students masquerading in whatever costumes fit their fancy used the occasion to exhibit a "real college spirit." We have a description of one of these parades. "St. Patrick's Day made quite a stir in the college

circle as was the usual custom . . . A parade led by an Irish standard and the R J S C Jazz Band advanced through the middle of the town bearing an effigy of Lloyd George. Swung to the gallows in front of the Court House the persecutor of the Irish was duly burned amid the cheers of all.' ( *College Cheer*, March 21, 1921, p. 4) The parade would be a central part of the day's celebration until the President abolished it, after the students caused a disturbance in the local high school by declaring a free day for the pupils. The last parade was held on March 17, 1930.

The College observed its **Silver Jubilee** during a three-day celebration, June 19-21, 1916. On Monday, June 19th, in ideal June weather, visiting clergy, alumni, and friends came to campus on every train (there were eight a day at that time). The jubilee exercises began at 8:00 P.M. in Alumni Hall (the concert hall of the new gymnasium building) with the staging of Shakespeare's *Henry IV* by the Columbian Literary Society and with music from the College orchestra (it was customary for the orchestra to perform before the play and between Acts). The next morning there was a Solemn High Mass with the former president, Father Augustine Seifert, as main celebrant. The sermon, "Christian Education," was delivered by Henry Moeller, Archbishop of Cincinnati. In the afternoon at three o'clock the new Gymnasium-Concert Hall was dedicated. In the evening the *Turnverein*, the acrobatic club under the direction of Father Albin Scheidler, put on a well received show. The main feature of the evening, however, was the Alumni Banquet, with the usual speeches, toasts and fond memories. The next morning the twenty-first annual Commencement Exercises were conducted. In between there were baseball games, band concerts and much visiting and reminiscing.

To memorialize the occasion the Alumni Association published a commemorative booklet, *St. Joseph's College, A Retrospect 1891-1916*, written by Rev. William D. Sullivan, a priest of the Fort Wayne Diocese and at the time pastor of St. Bernard's Church in Wabash, Indiana. He had come to Saint Joseph's as a student in the second year of the College and was a member of the first class to receive the A.B. degree in 1897. He had been the editor of *The Saint Joseph's Collegian* in his senior year. Though a valuable record of the first twenty-five years, and especially of the first six, the Retrospect was not meant to be a systematic history of the College, but primarily an account of its founding and the establishment of its spirit and traditions, an evocation of the pioneer days by one who had lived through them for six years as a student and now, years later, held a warm spot in his heart for what the College faculty and staff had done for him and others.

## 1916-1925: FIFTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND IGNATIUS WAGNER, C.PP.S.

1916- On August 30th, 1916, Father Ignatius Wagner assumed the presidency  
1917 of the College, the youngest college president in the nation at the time and the youngest ever in the history of Saint Joseph's (having beaten out Fr. Seifert for the honors by seven months), and first alumnus to assume the office. One of the ablest men in the history of the Society of the Precious Blood, he possessed the leadership qualities of Father Seifert, like him firm but less domineering, and with the advantages of a university education. He was ordained in 1908, received his doctorate in Chemistry from Catholic University of America in 1912 and the same year joined the SJC faculty, where he was considered an excellent teacher. Being Prefect of Studies during Father Lear's presidency and having supervised the construction of the new gymnasium, he was in effect already running the College when he became president. "Soft-spoken, dedicated, systematic and persistent worker, his life was typified by hard and continuous service. He re-organized the College administration in 1913 and during his presidency the school witnessed academic improvement, streamlining of an Alumni Association, growth in the physical plant and expansion of farm holdings." (BE, p. 77) After his presidency he became the Provincial of the Society of the Precious Blood from 1926 to 1938. During those years, as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, he continued his interest in and guidance of the College, especially by sending away a steady stream of priests for graduate studies. It was in his regime, too, that Saint Joseph's became a four-year college in 1936. After his two terms as Provincial he went to Brunnerdale Seminary, which he had built in 1931, as teacher for eight years, during six of which he was also-principal. In 1953 he became the chaplain at Saint Francis Hospital, Shakopee, Minnesota, where he died August 10, 1958 at the age of 75.

1917 Father Clemens Schuette published the first of a two-volume set of Latin textbooks entitled *Principia Latina: Grammar and Exercises for Beginners*. And Father Justin Henkel composed and published a collection of English and Latin hymns, entitled *Praise the Precious Blood*. For many years these hymns formed an integral part of Devotion to the Precious Blood in C.PP.S. houses and parishes. Some are still found in the Hymnal of the C.PP.S. Teutonic Province, and some in modified form are also sung in this country.

The Academic Department (High School Courses) was **accredited** by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Some time later St. Joseph's will be accredited as a Junior College, and later still as a Senior College.

We learn from the College Catalog that "The College possesses a library of about 10,000 volumes indexed according to the Dewey or decimal system. It is under the direction of an experienced librarian who supervises the reading

of the students. The library also subscribes to all the leading journals and periodicals which are placed in the reading rooms for the use of the student.' This is quite a change from a few years earlier when there were only a few books in the semi-private libraries of the student societies, and periodicals were limited to a few religious papers.

In a supplement to the 1917 Catalog, a kind of Viewbook used for advertising, we have an account of how the College supported itself. We read: " 'How do you do it?' is the question often asked . . . by visitors who, after seeing the equipment, inquire about rates. The College not only possesses a living endowment in its professors, working brothers, and (Community) students, who receive no salaries, but also a valuable asset in a highly productive farm and garden . . . Fresh meat, milk, and butter from our own herds and dairy, fresh bread, pies, and cakes from our own bakery, and the thousands of gallons of preserves, jams, and fruits that are canned in season, and the thousands of bushels of vegetables that are stored away or hilled up in the garden as grandfather did it, are the means of 'doing it'. The kitchens, dining rooms, and laundry are in charge of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. The College also possesses its own power and light plant, repair shops, laundry and water supply system." (p. 26)

The **first Alumni Register** was published in 1917, the work of two years of collecting and systematizing records, covering the period 1891-1917. It contained three lists: 1) a list of living alumni who had been at the college at least one year and had been honorably dismissed and whose addresses were known. It listed their name, major (classical, normal, commercial), years of attendance, address and occupation. 2) A list of the deceased, containing name, place of origin, date, cause and place of death if known. 3) A list of those whose addresses were unknown. The first list contained 923 names, the second 57 and the third 136 for a total of 1116. Five other directories would be published in the course of time, three covering the periods 1891-1923, 1891-1931, 1891-1941, and two containing those whose names and addresses were in the alumni files in 1980 and 1986 respectively.

- 1918- The college could not forget that the country was engaged in **World War I**.  
 1919 Father James McIntyre, who had joined the faculty two years before, became a chaplain in the Army. The students raised \$900 for the Knights of Columbus War Fund. About 120 alumni were in the service, and before the war was over eight alumni would give their lives for their country; their names appear on a marble plaque in the vestibule of the chapel. And the **Spanish Influenza** epidemic that devastated the U.S. Army camps, and world-wide killed more than 20 million people, did not spare the College but closed it down for a month, beginning October 11th. When the secular students, who had gone home, returned on Armistice Day, November 11th, the epidemic broke out again, but students remained on campus and school was kept in session. The 123 who were sick were treated by four Franciscan Sisters from



St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lafayette and two Alexian Brothers from Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago. The 180 students who were not sick went to class. Most cases were mild and new cases terminated abruptly on November 17th, and practically all students were back in class by November 28th. One student died from Bright's Disease complications.

Since it was necessary to have more pasture land, the College purchased the **Eigelsbach farm** of 160 acres, known as the River Farm. To purchase the farm the College had to go into debt for a considerable sum of money. The total land holdings were increased to 460 acres.

**Mr. Paul Tonner**, known to many generations of students as "Prof", joined the faculty in 1918 as a member of the music department. He was to be on the faculty for 45 years, retiring at age 70 in 1963. He died in 1984 at the age of 92. It would be difficult to name one who worked harder, was more loyal, and influenced to the good more students than he. While raising a family of ten he averaged five hours a day in giving lessons in piano, organ, theory, all string, brass and wind instruments, trained and directed band and orchestra, gave band concerts, and published 150 compositions (including the Saint Joseph's Fight Song), and composed three times as many. In addition he was the organist for Sunday High Mass and Vespers at the College, as well as organist and choir director for St. Augustine's Church. On Sundays in springtime he gave frequent band concerts from the College outdoor band stand that brought together an audience of students and townspeople. But he was also very active off campus. He organized and directed the Rensselaer high school band during 1930-40 and on Wednesday nights during the summer put on concerts on the courthouse lawn. During 1933-43 he directed a drum and bugle corps. On top of all this, he directed bands in the neighborhood communities during the summer: Remington (five summers), Wolcott (three summers) and Brook (three summers). Saint Joseph's officially recognized Tonner's contributions in 1958 when it conferred on him the honorary Doctor of Letters degree on the occasion of his 40th year on the College faculty.

1919 The first Annual **Alumni Day** was celebrated on the Feast of Saint Joseph's. Alumni meetings had been held every year since the founding of the Alumni Association in 1896, usually in connection with graduation. But this was an all-campus celebration with alumni and students intermingling. The baseball game between the alumni and a representative student team was to become a favored feature of many Alumni Days to come. Students looked forward to this day as one of the greatest in the calendar.

**Three bells** were purchased and installed in the east tower of the chapel. They were rung from the tower for the first time on Pentecost Eve. The purchase of the bells was made possible by a \$3000 donation from a friend of the College who wished his name be kept secret. He made the donation to

express his love of the Precious Blood and of Saint Joseph's College. Each of the bells is inscribed with a Latin quotation from the Bible proclaiming the Precious Blood.

1919- Saint Mary's Preparatory Seminary was opened at Burkettsville, Ohio, on  
1920 the grounds of the C.P.P.S. Brothers' Novitiate. It was intended to become a four-year high school seminary, and the program of studies was to parallel that of Saint Joseph's. For the first time, therefore, since its founding there would be no first year high school community students at the College.

1920 The second Alumni Day was a gala day. The April 28, 1920, number of *College Cheer* describes it: "Alumni Day will long be remembered as the outstanding feature of the school year. The Alumni attended in force, their baseball team played ours, and finally the Turners topped off the day with a snappy, sparkling exhibition of gymnastics. Never did enthusiasm rise to a higher pitch or St. Joseph's prove itself a better entertainer than on this Alumni Day."

A new heating system was installed in the Main Building during the summer. "Those who remember the cold mornings last year when the radiators used to refuse to work will be good friends of the Vacuum System which was installed throughout the main building." (*College Cheer*, Oct. 1920, p. 1)

1920- Enrollment was down in the high school department from the previous year  
1921 (from 264 to 223). This loss reflected the fact that the first two years of Community students were now taking their studies in Saint Mary's Preparatory Seminary at Burkettsville, Ohio, instead of at Saint Joseph's. The College department at Saint Joseph's enrolled 52, for a total enrollment of 275.

"We are most grateful to all those who contributed toward the **pipe organ fund**, especially to the gentleman, who by his first contribution of \$1000, gave the impetus to the movement, and the gentleman and lady, who by their generous gift of \$5000, will make it possible to purchase an adequate and beautiful instrument." (Catalog, 1919-20, p. 80) The new organ would be dedicated the following fall.

1921 "A friend of the institution has donated the liberal sum of \$1400 for the purchase of a **tower clock** to be placed in one of the chapel towers and which will strike the quarter hours on the new bells . . . Work has been begun on the chambers for the new pipe organ which will adorn the chapel in a few months. The total cost of the new organ will be approximately \$12,000." (*Nuntius Aulae*, Jan. 1921, p. 83)

1921- The new organ was dedicated on November 13th, 1921. After the dedica-  
1922 tion a concert was given by the College Choir under the direction of Father Justin Henkel with organ accompaniment by Prof. Paul C. Tonner. The concert was repeated on November 16th for people from Rensselaer and vicinity. Annual concerts of a similar nature would continue to be given for another



*In the upper part of the picture on the right is the bank (cow) barn (1900) where Halleck Center now stands, and on the left are the horse barn and implement sheds (1920) where Noll Hall now stands.*

ten years or more on or near November 22, the Feast of Saint Cecilia, patron saint of musicians.

Because of a mild winter very little ice was cut for the ice boxes. The College had the choice of buying ice all summer, an expensive proposition, or of buying **an ice maker**. The latter course was chosen. At the same time new coolers were installed. The new equipment made it unnecessary to cut ice in the future.

**Peter Heimes**, a graduate nurse from Charity Hospital in Cleveland, was engaged as an assistant to Brother Victor Zuber, long-time infirmarian and mail-carrier and familiar fixture at the College. Mr. Heimes, too, was to become a fixture for the next twenty-six years, a hard working and skilled nurse, highly respected by the whole College community. He was a graduate of the College, having been a C.P.P.S. seminarian.

In preparation for the proposed new Power Plant, the horse barn that stood west of Dwenger Hall was razed, and a new one, along with a wagon and implement shed, was built south of the bank barn and stood where Noll Hall is now. The tennis courts stood on the site of the present power plant, and so they were transferred to their present location north of Science Hall. The chicken coop and pig sties that stood west of Dwenger Hall were moved to an area east of Drexel Hall.

In October, 1921, the Society of the Precious Blood donated to the College the buildings of the **old Indian School** and the 420 acres of land. The land holdings were thus increased to 880 acres. The old Indian School housed the editorial office of the Messenger Press, including that of *The Messenger* and *Der Botschafter*. In 1896 when the school was closed, the plant became a kind of self-contained unit with no direct relationship to the College. The first floor of the old Indian School housed the dining room, the laundry, the kitchen, the recreation rooms, and the living quarters of the Precious Blood Sisters who took care of the kitchen and laundry. On the second floor were the rooms for the priests, some of whom were missionaries, and the editorial office of the Messenger Press. The third floor housed the Chapel, and rooms for guests and for the Brothers who operated the printing press and the farm. The printing shop itself was east of the Indian School in a frame building which had been a blacksmith and carpenter shop for the manual training of the Indians.

- 1922     Ground was broken in April for the **new power plant**, which is still in operation. The building covers a ground space of about 13,000 square feet, excluding the coal bin which holds about 1500 tons. In addition to three 100 horse power boilers, and two 50 and one 30 kilowatt generators, the building at the time also housed the machine shops and pump room, and on the second floor in front the rooms for the C.P.P.S. Brothers. The plant was to furnish heat and light for all the College buildings. At the same time the tun-

nel system was overhauled and extended and the heating system in all buildings changed to the Dunham Vacuum System to utilize exhaust steam. The plant itself cost about \$90,000 and the total renovation about \$120,000. The plant was large enough to take care of current and future needs, and sixty years later would still be in operation, though no longer generating electricity.

The whole printing establishment was moved from the Indian School to the new Seminary building at Carthagen, Ohio. The priests, Brothers, and Sisters who worked there went along with the Press. The Indian School was used partially thereafter for farm storage but remained largely unused until made into a student residence in 1937. Meanwhile the *College Cheer*, which had been printed at the Indian School, was now printed at the Republican Printing Co. in Rensselaer. The cost of printing almost doubled. The subscription rate remained \$1.00 a year, and the difference in cost was made up by advertising.

- 1922- **Father Joseph Kenkel** joined the faculty, He was the second member with  
1923 a Ph.D., having attained it in Economics at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. He will become the seventh President of the College in 1927.

We learn from *College Cheer* (December 16, 1922, p. 1) that Saint Joseph's had "one of the finest **radio outfits** in any educational institution in the Middle West . . . With the present world wide interest in radio telegraphy it is perhaps a requisite for an institution of this kind to possess an outfit . . . In addition to the connection on the Basketball gallery which will insure the reports of athletic and ephemeral news, there will be an installment in Alumni Hall for musical concerts and other items of interest. It is hoped that concerts will be a regular feature."

- 1923 A full-time athletic coach was hired. The new coach was **Thomas Radican**, who had played football for three years at Northwestern University and, after returning from the armed services, entered the University of Illinois, where he played football and baseball. "The acquisition of a regular coach is certainly a necessary and valuable move for the welfare of St. Joe athletics. We have been producing fine teams; the impetus that Mr. Radican will undoubtedly add to the athletic spirit in general should place St. Joe on a still higher basis in athletic circles." (*College Cheer*, March 27, 1923, p. 2)

The one who hired Mr. Radican was **Father Albin Scheidler**, who had been made athletic director in 1912. He himself coached the gymnastic team, known as the Turners, and the basketball team. He brought great enthusiasm and success to both. In baseball and football he had assistants to do the actual coaching and in later years also in basketball. But the over-all direction of the teams was his, and the *College Cheer* pays him due honor. "Playing an indirect, yet prominent, role in every game, shouldering all the responsibilities of athletic affairs, and ever striving for the interest of us all, our

Reverend director, Father Albin, merits condign reward for the success of our recent season. The innumerable duties incumbent upon him are not all apparent to the students; the responsibilities of the team are placed upon his shoulders . . . The 'Cheer', as mute spokesman of the athletic-body at St. Joe's, with unusual pleasure congratulates Father Albin Scheidler upon the season's happy issue, and tenders him a vote of thanks for the successful guidance of our squad." (*College Cheer*, March 27, 1923, p. 5)

Father Scheidler was to leave an even more permanent mark upon the College through his thirteen years (1925-1938) as superintendent of buildings and grounds, director of farms, and treasurer. To these jobs, too, he brought the same enthusiasm, hard work and expertise that he had brought to athletics. Much of the beauty of the campus even today is the product of his loving care and vision. After being gone from the College for twenty-two years he returned for his retirement in 1960 at the age of 78. For the next dozen years, though retired, he took an active interest in College affairs, especially in the Grotto, which he himself had enlarged in 1931. He spent his last years at Saint Charles Seminary where he died in 1977 at the age of 95.

One of the athletes of this period was a topic of conversation and source of great pride among the students for many years. After completing his high school at Saint Joseph's, where he starred in all three major sports, he enrolled in Purdue University. The April 12, 1923, edition of the *Indianapolis Star* reported on his progress: "**Ferdinand J. Wellman** of Fort Recovery, Ohio . . . appears on the way to gaining three varsity letters during his sophomore year at Purdue University, a feat that has been accomplished but a few times in recent years . . . His playing on the hardwood court is expected to rival that of Ray Miller, the greatest of all Purdue backguards."

The new powerhouse went into operation in May, 1923. The contract had been given to the Medland brothers of Logansport, who had been the contractors of all the buildings from the beginning. In 1923 there were also three Medland boys at the College as students.

1923- The fall of the school year 1923-24 for the first time saw no Community  
1924 students enrolled. The plan was for these students to take their six years of minor seminary studies at Saint Mary's Preparatory Seminary at Burkettsville, Ohio (two years) and at Saint Charles Preparatory Seminary, Carthage, Ohio (4 years). But the plan would soon fall through, and C.P.P.S. seminarians would again enroll at the College in the fall of 1925.

When the school year opened in 1923 Father Theodore Koenn had become the Athletic Director in place of Father Albin Scheidler, who had been director for the last eleven years. *College Cheer* also announced that it was extending the number of annual issues from fourteen to twenty, "the realization of our fondest desires, the accomplishment of our fixed endeavors — a greater publication for St. Joseph's." (*Cheer*, Oct. 6, 1923, p. 4) The subscription price was raised from \$1.00 a year to \$1.50.

- 1924 Saint Joseph's graduated a class of 54, the largest in its history. Eighteen were from the College Department, three from the Commercial Program, and twenty-eight from the Academic Department (Academy or High School). The total enrollment for the year was 240 — 190 in the Academy and 50 in the College Division.

For the fall of 1924, "Coach Radican organized a football league and every class is represented. Never before has such a venture been attempted at the local school." (*College Cheer*, Oct. 11, 1923, p. 1) This system of class play, by which each of the top five classes played each other, though not foreseen at the time, was to remain as the heart of intramural athletics during the seven years of 1925-32 when the Varsity would be suspended. The contests could be uneven with the second class of fifteen-year-olds playing the sixth class of nineteen-year-olds, but everyone seemed to take it in stride.

This same edition of the school paper reports what was to be the most lopsided score by which any SJC Varsity team ever lost a football game: Lake Forest 103, St. Joe 0. A little later the Varsity lost to Indiana State 45-0 and to DeKalb Normal 42-0. It appears that the College in the euphoria of having a professional coach overestimated its competitive prowess, forgetting that it was in numbers still overwhelmingly a four-year high school. It was perhaps a harbinger of things to come: Coach Radican would not be back the following year, nor would Saint Joseph's have another Varsity for seven years.

- 1925 The month of June brought an announcement that would have a profound, even though temporary, effect on the nature of the College. On June 13th Father Othmar Knapke, acting Rector of Saint Charles Seminary, "formally announced the changes that had been contemplated for some time and were decided upon at a recent board meeting, held at Saint Joseph's College. With the opening of the scholastic year next September, St. Joseph's College will be known as **St. Joseph's Preparatory Seminary** . . . St. Mary's at Burkettsville, where the Community students are to make their first year's course, has been made a Juniorate. All the students who are at present at St. Mary's and all the students of St. Charles Preparatory, the graduating class excepted, will enter St. Joseph's Preparatory Seminary . . . Commercial and scientific students will no longer be admitted." (*Nuntius Aulæ*, July, 1925, p. 179) The change was made in response to the urgent requests of the Bishops of the Dioceses of Toledo, Fort Wayne, and Louisville, who desired that St. Joseph's be the Minor Seminary for their priesthood students (it was already so for Fort Wayne). They in turn, along with the C.P.P.S. Superiors, were responding to pressures from Rome that seminarians be educated in a more restricted atmosphere than that provided in a regular boarding high school and college. The arrangement would continue till the fall of 1932.

Though the College was to lose some of its diversity, it would, if anything,

gain intellectually and culturally. These "were possibly the years of greatest individual student achievement . . . Dramatics flourished, while the choir, band and orchestra units went abroad and gathered new laurels. Father Rapp became prominent for his results at the helm of the Columbian Literary Society. Professor Tonner first began in 1925 his work of turning the music department into a veritable bedlam which always resulted in delicately-presented work when the great nights of presentation came. This was the era of the elaborate St. Patrick's Day masquerades into Rensselaer . . . Life, spirit, study, achievement, good fellowship — these were the watchwords." (*St. Joseph's College Phase*, 1941, "Fourth Decade").

Because the majority of the students would be Community students in the coming school year, Father Ignatius Wagner asked the Board of Trustees that he be relieved of the Presidency and that someone more familiar with Community students (there were none at the College during the last two years) be appointed to the office. His resignation was accepted and in July Father Didacus Brackmann, since 1919 Rector of Saint Mary's Preparatory Seminary at Burkettsville, Ohio, was appointed President.

## 1925-1927: SIXTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND DIDACUS BRACKMANN, C.PP.S.

1925- For the first seventeen years of his priestly life Father Brackmann had  
1926 been a gifted and highly regarded professor of dogmatic theology at Saint Charles Seminary. For the next six years he had been an equally successful rector of the Preparatory Seminary at Burkettsville. But his appointment to the Presidency of Saint Joseph's was unfortunate. Though zealous and learned he was never able to adjust to the situation at the College. After two years of frustration, both he and the faculty desired a change and his resignation was graciously accepted. He spent the last two years of his life as chaplain for the Sisters of Notre Dame in Milwaukee, and died of cancer on July 24, 1929 at the age of 53. His memory remains a revered one in the Society of the Precious Blood.

During the three years when the Board of Trustees and the Faculty were debating whether Saint Joseph's was to become a Preparatory Seminary without other students or a College without seminarians, the enrollment suffered. After reaching a high of 330 in 1913 it dropped to 240 in 1924, the lowest since 1908. It will begin a steady climb back and will go above the 300 mark again (310 to be exact) in 1928. In this fall of 1925 there were 246 students, of whom 189 were on the high school level and 57 on the college level. Of the total number, 143 were Community students (Classes II-VI). Those non-priesthood students remaining over from the previous year



(Classes II-III on the high school level) were granted permission to remain and finish, provided that they submitted to the same routine and discipline as the seminarians.

By action of the Board of Trustees, **varsity athletics were dropped** during the seven-year seminary period. But interest in intramurals continued to run very high with a wide variety of competition. There was competition between the High School Department and the College Department, with the big game in football being played on Thanksgiving Day. But the most prevalent competition was interclass, the top players of each of the top five classes playing each other. This was known as the Senior League. For those who did not make the teams in this league there were three others: Junior, Academic, and Midget. It should be borne in mind that the football played was not touch football, but the real McCoy, with padded suits and shoulder pads and all the other paraphernalia. The flying tackle had not yet been outlawed.

- 1926 Because of the great changes that took place at the beginning of the school year, with two-thirds of the students new, it was not possible for the student newspaper to get organized and published in the first semester. There would be only five issues during the school year 1925-26, the first coming out on February 27, 1926. The objectives of the paper remained the same, but the name was changed from *College Cheer* to *The Cheer*. The number of pages per issue was raised from eight to twelve, and publication was every three weeks. There was probably also some faculty control, since Father Meinrad Koester, who had helped persuade the faculty to allow the paper to re-organize, became its moderator, or in official language director.

Annual Commencement Exercises were held on June 9-10, 1926. There were twenty-nine in the graduating class, of whom eight were High School seniors and the other twenty-one Junior College seniors. Of the college graduates thirteen were C.P.P.S. seminarians, who had spent only their last year at Saint Joseph's. There will be one more graduation class for the high school group, and though students can go on receiving a diploma after completing the four years, the graduation exercises will be confined to those who have completed the six-year program.

- 1926- Beginning with the school year 1926-27, the institution is once **again call-**  
1927 **ed Saint Joseph's College.** The name Preparatory Seminary lasted only one year, but the 1926 Catalog nevertheless re-states clearly that "In June, 1925, the Board of Trustees decided that St. Joseph's should henceforth be a preparatory seminary."

With the opening of the second year, student life has settled back into routine. But the editor of *The Cheer* can nevertheless complain that there is a divided student body and he pleads for unity between the Community students and the Secular students. "Let us, therefore, work together, having

as our common goal a greater St. Joe.' (October, 1926, p. 4) In an earlier day people actually spoke of two student bodies, and the tension between the C.P.P.S. and Secular seminarians never did totally disappear, but became minimal at this time, especially since there was complete cooperation in athletics, with the two groups playing on the same teams instead of against each other. Furthermore, the Community students and secular students were now together in the same study halls, the college students occupying the south end of the Main Building and the high school students occupying the north end. The old names of Aquino Hall and Xavier Hall had dropped out of use.

From *The Cheer* we learn of another paper on campus: "The 'Quodlibet', after a year's absence, has been revived and, as Professor Tonner predicts, will be bigger and better than ever. The 'Quodlibet' is devoted to all classes of music, vocal as well as instrumental. The paper will contain instructive and entertaining articles on music which will greatly aid all musical students in their work. It is hoped that all will show their appreciation and interest by subscribing to and boosting the paper." (December, 1926, p. 5) The account goes on to say that the music department was overflowing with students taking music courses and lessons, many having to give up their free time to pursue their music interests, but doing it gladly, since as Milton says, "Such sweet compulsion doth in music lie."

- 1927 News arrived of the first **alumnus to be made a bishop**. He was Rudolph Gerken, consecrated bishop of Amarillo, Texas, on April 26th, 1927. He was to be the first of eleven alumni who would be ordained bishops (with dates of attendance): William Arnold (1896-1902), John Bennett (1906-09), Henry Grimmelsmann (1907-09), Rudolph Gerken (1908-11), Leo Pursley (1915-21), Joseph Marling (1918-23), Clarence Issenmann (1925-27), Charles Maloney (1926-32), Thomas Danehy (1931-33), Albert Ottenweller (1930-36), and Joseph Charron (1958-60). After the middle 1930's the College, with a few exceptions, was no longer enrolling diocesan seminarians, the group from which bishops normally come. Charron, like Marling, is a member of the Society of the Precious Blood.

## 1927-1937: SEVENTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND JOSEPH KENKEL, C.P.P.S.

Father Kenkel assumed office in June after the 1927 Commencement. He was ordained in 1918 and received the Ph.D. in Economics at Catholic University of America in 1922, and joined the faculty at Saint Joseph's the same year. He was gone for a year and a half at St. Charles Preparatory Seminary at Carthagen, Ohio, but returned to Saint Joseph's in 1925, where he taught English and History in addition to being Secretary (Registrar) and Prefect of Studies (Academic Dean). He kept the job of Secretary-Prefect of Studies

as well as some teaching when he became President. He was forward looking and would early on (1930) propose that the Community students remain at Brunnerdale for four years and that Saint Joseph's become a four-year college granting the B.A. degree. It fell to him to steer the College back to general admissions and eventually to the four-year status that he had advocated. Though he gave the impression of being stern (students called him "the great stone face"), he was basically a kind and considerate man. He was the first president to remain on at the College after his presidency — twenty-five years as a professor, and another fifteen in retirement. He died in Carthagena, Ohio, on August 10, 1978 at the age of 84.

- 1927- The school year opened September 8, 1927 with 290 students, of whom  
1928 130 were Community students. This is the first time in which the number of secular students exceeded that of the Religious. This trend will never be reversed during the Institution's seminary years.

**The St. Joseph's Collegian** was revived after having ceased publication in 1910. Like its predecessor it was a monthly publication, with the threefold purpose of reporting local events (and humor), giving some Alumni news, and providing an outlet for the literary work of the students. Since 1910 "various other publications, more predominantly local in spirit, have made their appearance, chief among which was *The Cheer*. The publication was notably local in spirit and appeal, and hence we are not surprised at the fact it lost in circulation . . . The present publication is an answer to a twofold demand — a desire among the Alumni to reap the benefits of a true sketch of their Alma Mater which they have learned to love and remember, and secondly, a decided wish among the student body for something more general in its appeal, more solid in its subject matter." (*Collegian*, Oct. 8, 1927, p. 21) The subscription price was \$1.00, the first issue had 38 pages, and the Faculty Director was Father Meinrad Koester.

*The Collegian*, in addition to its other features, always ran reports on "The Societies": Columbian Literary Society, Newman Club, Raleigh Smoking Club, and the **Dwenger Mission Unit**. The latter was part of a much larger movement. In 1918 the Catholic Students Mission Crusade was founded, its purpose being to enlist support among Catholic students for the home and foreign missions through finances, education and prayers. It spread rapidly through the schools, especially where seminarians were involved, and by the 1920's was enthusiastically embraced by most Catholic Colleges. A branch, the Dwenger Mission Unit, dedicated to the memory of Bishop Joseph Dwenger of Fort Wayne, was established at Saint Joseph's in May, 1920. Beginning the following October *The Cheer* carried a regular column on its activities, a practice followed by its successor. Though membership was voluntary, a majority of the students joined it and through its monthly programs and other activities found ways of expressing their religious sentiments and crusading instincts.

- 1928 Homecoming was celebrated May 8-9. (Alumni Day was first called Homecoming in 1923.) "The variety of entertainment prepared for the occasion began in the afternoon of May 8 with a band concert . . . The students of instrumental and vocal music entertained the Alumni in the evening of May 8 with the annual Musicales . . . Suffice it to say that few entertainments in the local auditorium found more ready acceptance in comparison with this year's Musicales . . . The baseball game, played May 9, proved to be a pitchers' duel between **Sal Dreiling** on the College team, and Tom Wolf on the Alumni Side." (*Collegian*, May, 1928, pp. 325-27) The Sal Dreiling mentioned here, considered by many as among the greatest of Saint Joe's pitchers, became Father Marcellus Dreiling, for thirty-three years a professor of Mathematics and one of the greatest golfers on the College Faculty.

In the middle of the summer of 1928 it became clear that, because of the large number of secular student applicants, the College was not going to be able to enroll everyone. A number of applicants were turned away, but to make room for others, the class scheduled to come over from Saint Mary's at Burkettsville was informed that they were to remain at Saint Mary's, thus creating two classes there the next school year. From then on there would never be more than two classes of Community students on the high school level at the College. Because of this fact and because of their large classes, the secular students this year outnumbered the C.P.P.S. students by 225 to 93. Of this total, 80 were in the College Department and 238 in the High School Department.

- 1929 A sample of extra-campus student activity in these years can be gleaned from this account in *The Collegian* (February, 1929, p. 242) of entertainment by Bart Stricker, a man about campus, and his colleagues, given at a banquet in Rensselaer. "In response to a special request 'Bart' Stricker and his well-known quartet agreed to display their singing and orchestral ability at a recent banquet given at the new Armory, in Rensselaer, Ind., under the auspices of the Farmers' Educational Bureau of Purdue Univeristy. For two hours 'Bart' and his boys entertained the gathering of some 350 persons in a manner that earned their applause and hearty commendation . . . and favorable reflection upon St. Joseph's College."

During the summer of 1929 Jackson Highway, now known as U.S. Highway 231, was paved from Remington to Rensselaer. The same contractors also paved the **College main entrance** from the highway to the Faculty Building (later Gaspar Hall). Though it is showing its age with holes and cracks, the road is still serving its purpose after more than sixty years.

- 1929- The enrollment of the College, after rising for five years in succession,  
1930 in the fall of 1929 equalled the highest in its history (321 in the first semester and 330 for the year), and the mood was upbeat. The College shared the optimism of the country. But neither foresaw the collapse of the stock market

on October 24th and the beginning of an economic decline that in three years would plunge the country into the depths of its greatest depression and in the process imperil the existence of the College through the inability of the bishops to send their students to Saint Joseph's. The effect, however, would not be felt for two years.

- 1930 On May 16th in a meeting of the Board of Trustees, Father Kenkel, President of the College, urged that Brunnerdale Seminary, about to open in September 1931, be raised to four years and that Saint Joseph's College in time become a four-year institution. This proposal could not have been related solely, if at all, to enrollment problems since enrollment was still rising and would reach the highest number to date the following fall. His proposal was not accepted, but when it is accepted five years later it will be done to meet what at that time was clearly an enrollment problem.

After describing the St. Patrick's Day parade into Rensselaer, *The Collegian* continues the account: "While a friendly demonstration was being held before the high school, a delegation requested the Principal to dismiss classes for the day. The petition was granted . . . Again the parade headed for the business section of the town. The high school students of Rensselaer joined ranks with the St. Joe boys, while the pupils from the grade school ran along in front, behind and everywhere else to make the parade a real showing." (*Collegian*, April 12, 1930, p. 381) Such high jinks will a year hence cause the abolition of the parade.

"On May 7th, the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, the students of the college department enjoyed a delightful banquet. At eleven o'clock on that day, the students of '30 and '31, representing 'Baker Hall', repaired to the banqueting hall of Wright Brothers' Inn, Rensselaer, where they found everything decorated with bunting and streamers of red and blue, the class colors of '30.'" (*Collegian*, June 6, 1930, p. 521) "Baker Hall" was the study hall on the south end of the Main Building for the college students. Since the study hall Prefect was Brother Fidelis Baker, it was dubbed by the students Baker Hall. The high school students occupied study halls on the first and second floors of the north end.

Commencement exercises were held on June 10th. The baccalaureate address was delivered by Rev. William Sullivan, pastor of St. Bernard's Church, Crawfordsville, Indiana. It will be recalled that Father Sullivan was the one who wrote the *Retrospect* to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the College in 1916. Graduation concluded, as did all graduations for many years, with the singing of the College Hymn, the Alma Mater song, composed by Father Justin Henkel.

It was customary for the graduating class to make some gift to the College. The class of 1930 erected the sundial that still graces the corner southeast of the Science Building, though the dial face itself was replaced in 1977 and

the original motto of the class, "*Ad astra per Aspera*" (to the stars through difficulties) was replaced with *Tempus Fugit* (time flies).

The two literary and drama clubs, The Columbian Literary Society and The Newman Club, were active as usual in the school year 1929-30. In addition to debates, readings, dialogues and parliamentary discussions at their monthly meetings, they also put on public programs. The C.L.S. staged four plays — on the eves of Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, Alumni Day, and Graduation. They also put on full-length variety shows for Columbus Day and for Washington's Birthday. The Newman Club produced three plays and one variety show. At all ten of these events the College Orchestra or Band also performed. In addition the Music Department put on its own annual Musicale, which this year included an operetta. The Band also performed some outdoor concerts.

1930- The school year opened in September 1930 with the largest enrollment  
1931 ever to date (327 at the start of the first semester and 331 for the year). Of the total, 227 were secular students and 100 Community students. Of the 227 seculars, 90 were from the Fort Wayne Diocese, 65 from the Louisville Diocese, and 60 from the Toledo Diocese. The rest were from various other places. Altogether the student body came from fifteen States.

The College acquired an additional farm of 240 acres, known as the **Fowler Farm**, four miles south and three miles west of Remington. It was acquired on an annuity basis from Mrs. Ludie Hebert of Kankakee, Illinois. It would be sold in 1952.

Beginning in 1927, for three years the four-year high school program lost the accreditation that it gained in 1917. This was because the Indiana Department of Education insisted that the instructors who taught on the high school level qualify for teaching certificates, for which some were presently not eligible from lack of professional education and content courses. But the faculty began taking these courses and qualifying for licenses. Consequently in the fall of 1930 the College regained accreditation for the high school program, and for the first time a **separate High School Department** was established with its own Principal. The first Principal was Father Rufus Esser, who was also Librarian, and would become the following year Prefect of Discipline and for a brief period in 1937 President of the College. (Father Seifert opposed the original accreditation attained by Father Wagner and all subsequent accreditations on the grounds that Catholic education should not kowtow to or be impeded by State regulations.)

1931- The new school year opened on September 9th with an enrollment of 260-  
1932 students, down 70, or 21%, from the previous year. Clearly the Depression was beginning to take its toll and just as clearly a decision had to be made by the College and would be made before the school year was out.

Over the summer the **Lourdes Grotto** that had been erected by the C.P.P.S.

seminarians in 1898 was enlarged to its present dimensions. The stones for the structure were gathered from the College farm and from neighboring farms, and were made into a beautiful work under the supervision of Father Albin Scheidler and Mr. Meinrad Parzinger of Columbus, Ohio. The skilled combination of arches, lagoons, waterfalls, statues, flowers, evergreens, shubbery, rock gardens, lights and bypaths created an artistic effect. The new grotto was dedicated on November 15th by Father Bernard Ersing, who as a student had been responsible for the building of the old one. The sermon was preached by Father Ildephonse Rapp.

During the summer Father Rufus Esser became Prefect of Discipline, replacing Father Anthony Paluszak, who had held the job since 1925 in addition to teaching Greek and Latin. Father Paluszak left the College on leave of absence to pursue his doctorate in Classical Languages at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., which he would obtain in four years.

- 1932 In a meeting on March 29, 1932 the Board of Trustees decided to return the College to **its previous status** of Junior College and High School. Non-seminary students were again to be admitted and programs suitable to their needs were to be introduced. All of this was to be set in motion in time for the opening of the fall semester. And so we read in the 1932-33 Catalog: "The College now again offers curricula preparing for the professions as well as for the Priesthood. Four courses of study, General Academic, Classical, Scientific, and Business, are offered in the high school department. All four are designed to meet fully college entrance requirements. After the current year the course in the junior college department will also be so organized as to meet the requirements preparatory to specific courses in law, engineering, journalism, and philosophy. Both the high school and junior college departments are fully accredited . . . (by) the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools." (p. 10)

In the same Board of Trustees meeting, March 30th, 1932 approval was granted for the purchase of the 155 acre **Frank Kanne farm**. This brought the College farms to 1317 acres. On the farm were a barn and a frame house across the road from where Bennett Hall now stands. The farm with the buildings was bought for \$15,000. The house became in the year 1953 a student residence known as the "**White House**". Later it housed an experimental psychology laboratory, but was standing idle at the time it burned to the ground in 1980.

Among the improvements made over the summer of 1932 was the construction of a brick and stone **gateway at the main entrance** to the College, a gift of the alumni. The work was done by Mr. Meinrad Parzinger, who the previous summer constructed the new grotto. In the course of time the gateway, proving to be a traffic hazzard, was removed and a wider one erected.

1932- The fall semester opened with an enrollment of 258, mostly returning  
1933 students, with about 70 new ones. Of the Total, 146 were in the high school and 112 in the college department. Most of the diocesan seminarians who had begun would finish their studies at Saint Joseph's, but there would be few new ones in the future. On the faculty was **Mr. Thomas Gaynor**, M.A. from Notre Dame, instructor in English and assistant faculty director of *The Collegian*. He was the first full-time lay teacher outside the area of music.

**Varsity athletics were revived**, and Raymond DeCook, basketball star at Notre Dame, was hired as coach and instructor in Physical Education. There was not time enough to get a team ready for football, and so the new varsity sports program made its debut with basketball when the Saint Joseph's Cardinals beat the Huntington College Foresters 32-29.

1933 Alumni Day, May 10th, was noted for the heavy thunderstorm that dumped three inches of rain in a few hours on the campus and flooded the powerhouse in Rensselaer, so that there was no electricity there and on parts of the campus for a week. But in spite of the fact that seven ducks were seen on the eve of Homecoming swimming on the temporary "pond" in front of the Science Building, an area which at that time was the baseball diamond, the annual alumni-student baseball game was "played". What the students were most acutely aware of was that, while the Alumni in the afternoon were having their annual meeting and banquet, there was no movie in Rensselaer for the students because of the "black-out" condition of the town.

One of the many reconstructions of the interior of the gymnasium resulted this year in the enlargement of the seating capacity at basketball games, which were still played in what is now the basement of the Library. The seating capacity, which had been about two hundred around the balcony, was now increased to five hundred through the erection of bleachers on the east side of the floor.

1933- The school year opened September 12th, 1933, with 270 students, evenly  
1934 divided between high school and college. The number of new students was considerably larger than in previous years because of the publicity campaign and the vigorous recruiting by the faculty during the summer.

The Depression economy is reflected in the fees. For a number of years the cost of tuition, room, board and laundry had been \$200.00 a semester. In the fall of 1933 it was lowered to \$175.00. The fee structure was perhaps also the result of the need to attract more students. The fees will begin to rise again the following year.

In October the **Monogram Club** was founded. Membership was confined to those who had earned a letter in varsity sports the previous year and were presently participating in football or basketball. Its purpose was to promote social life and cooperation among the athletes — they had their own club room. The Club was also to play an important part in student government soon to be organized.



Though they were in their second year, the Varsity teams remained weak. The football team played two games: it lost 13-6 to the freshman team from Valparaiso University and tied the freshman team from St. Viator's College 7-7. That competition was limited in those days is understandable when it is remembered that the enrollment on the college level was less than 140 and consisted only of freshmen and sophomores. Furthermore practice was very limited. The daily schedule called for classes or studies at 2:00 and 5:00, with recess running from 3:30 to 5:00 P.M.

- 1934 For the first time in many years students were granted an Easter vacation. This did not, however, include the Community students, who remained on campus and participated in the solemn celebration of Holy Week services.

Of the various work projects that the Roosevelt Administration set up for dealing with the Depression, one was a work program for college students. Funds became available to colleges to pay students for part-time work on campus. The purpose of the program was to aid students to go to college because of the long-range benefits to the country, but also for the short-range advantage of getting young men out of the full-time work force. Saint Joseph's entered the program and remained in it till World War II emptied the campus.

- 1934- The school year opened September 11th with an enrollment of 250 (13  
1935 more will come in the second semester), evenly divided between Community students and others. Though the College was into the third year of general admissions, the discipline remained basically that of the seminary. Thus we read in the 1933-34 Catalog (p. 14): "Daily attendance at Mass and Benediction is prescribed. Daily Communion and weekly Confession are strongly encouraged. These, together with public religious instruction and private moral guidance, are powerful aids in character development. They are further supplemented by supervision in study, reading, games, society work, and other activities . . . All mail matter addressed to students and also all matter sent out by them, is subject to inspection by the President or his delegate."

On September 24, 1934 the College purchased 335 acres of land from the **estate of John Lawler**, a wealthy Chicago cattleman who reportedly owned up to 17,000 acres of land in Newton County alone. The newly purchased area lay west of present Justin Hall between the two east and west roads all the way to the Iroquois River, except for the 80-acre strip along Sparling Avenue, of which the College already owned the north half and would buy the other half in 1945. The land from the Lawler Estate brought the College land holdings to 1652 acres, of which about 80 acres were in campus.

- 1935 At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, March 3, 1935, Father Kenkel not only repeated his plea that Saint Joseph's become a four-year college, but that it also loosen the discipline for non-seminary students, admit non-Catholic

students, expand the curriculum, and provide individual rooms and more classroom space. With respect to the latter he proposed an addition to the gymnasium building. Father Wagner preferred that the College assume the expense, but suggested that the Society of the Precious Blood might consider expending \$100,000 for new construction, though the matter would have to go to a Provincial Chapter (today called Provincial Assembly). The addition of the west wing of Science Hall was subsequently approved in a June Provincial Chapter and bids were let the following November 29th, 1935, the winning bid being made by Peter Schumacher and Sons for \$92,447. Construction began at once. The same Provincial Chapter also approved expansion of St. Joseph's into a **four-year college**.

On April 28th the Dwenger Mission Unit held its annual mission festival in the gymnasium and the Raleigh Club room. Throughout the afternoon hours the many booths and bingo games drew crowds of students and visitors. The grand raffle in the evening closed the festivities. The distribution of the \$275 profit afforded opportunity for much oratory and parliamentary activity at the next meeting of the Unit.

- 1935- The school year began September 9th with an enrollment of 275, up 25  
1936 from the previous year. Of these, 125 were Community students. The total included 99 new students, the largest number in the history of the College, and the increase was timely since there had been 65 graduates the previous June, also a record. Of the new students, 51 entered the first year of the college department, and 26 the first year of the high school.

"**Father Gilbert Esser** is continuing his work in the CCC camps; two at Medaryville, Indiana (one of them of colored boys), and one at Monon. Each weekend he spends at these three camps, hearing confessions and instructing on Saturday evenings and saying Mass on Sunday in the Company recreation hall . . . Recently, after due examination and required preparation, Father Esser was appointed a chaplain in the Officers' Reserve Corps of the United States Army with rank of First Lieutenant." (*Nuntius Aulæ*, Jan. 1936, p. 93) During the week Father Esser taught Greek and Latin at the College, and would later become a full-time Army Chaplain during World War II.

- 1936 The 1936-37 Catalog (p. 10), issued in the spring of 1936, carried these announcements: "At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held in June 1935, plans were approved for expanding St. Joseph's College into a **full four year college** of liberal arts and sciences . . . The third or junior year of college will be offered, beginning with the opening of school in September, 1936, and the fourth or senior year, beginning with the opening of school in September, 1937. The courses of study will then include liberal arts and science, the classical course with emphasis upon philosophy, teacher training courses for prospective high school teachers, a course in business ad-

ministration; and the present professional courses in law, medicine, dentistry, and journalism will be expanded so that students who wish may take a complete four year course before entering upon their professional studies."

In a January 9th, 1936, meeting of the Board of Administration (equivalent of today's President's Administrative Council) a motion was approved that non-Catholic day students be allowed to attend the College. The resolution, however, was subsequently vetoed by the Provincial, Father Wagner. But the same idea would be approved two years later under a new Provincial.

In June Father Rufus Esser was relieved of the job of Prefect of Discipline, which he had held since 1931, and was made Prefect of Studies, the name being changed to Dean of Studies; the office, besides the work performed today by the Dean of the College and the Registrar, also included the collection of student fees. It was to be his further responsibility to build up the senior college curriculum and staff, as well as advertise for and recruit students. He retained his job as Principal of the High School. He was succeeded in the office of Prefect of Discipline by Father Fred Fehrenbacher, for whom, at his request, the title was changed to Dean of Students.

With the advent of a four-year college, the question arose as to whether there should be **high school varsity** teams. For the time being the College decided that, apart from whether or not it was a good idea, the cost was prohibitive. A high school varsity, nevertheless, will be playing basketball in the second semester of 1936-37.

1936- School opened September 16th, 1936, a week later than usual since inclement weather during the winter had delayed completion of the **new addition to the Science Building**. Even though it was not completely ready when classes began it was usable. The first floor contained seven classrooms. The second and third floors housed laboratories for biology, botany, geology, chemistry, and physics. (Geology and Physics would soon move to the basement.) There was also a large business office practice room and a typewriting and mechanical drawing room. In addition, on the west end of the second and third floors, there were **accommodations for fifty students**, twenty-one in individual rooms, three to a room, and the rest in study hall and dormitory. This was the first instance of individual student rooms in Saint Joseph's history. There were 268 students in all, 154 on the college level and 114 on the high school level, this being the first year in which college students outnumbered high school students. Of the college students 84 were freshmen, 57 sophomores, and 13 juniors.

A **Student Council** was initiated, consisting of eight members: two representatives from each of the three college classes and one from the senior high school class, and one for all three of the other high school classes. *The Collegian* (December, 1936, p. 163) carried this notice about it: "After exhaustive investigation and due consideration the faculty of St. Joseph's

established a student council which was readily endorsed by the student body itself. The council, which gives the students an opportunity to express their views on curricular and non-curricular affairs under the direction of a faculty adviser, is based upon the best and most effective points from the councils of sixty American Colleges and Universities. The council's powers are chiefly advisory; nevertheless they are both broad and inclusive."

Since it was the desire of the Society of the Precious Blood that the Community students be under a different discipline from that of the other students, arrangements were made that the C.P.P.S. seminarians, both high school and college level, occupy the south end of the Main Building. Beginning in the fall there were only three classes of Community students at Saint Joseph's for a total of 83, the junior high school class remaining at Brunnerdale. The other high school and first year college students occupied the north end of the Building. The second and third year college students were in the new addition to Science Hall.

Even though the Community students were to some extent separated from the other students, the discipline of the others still remained basically that of a seminary. Daily attendance at Mass and Benediction was prescribed, as well as the annual spiritual retreat. The order of the day was regimented: Mass at 6:30 A.M., breakfast in common at 7:00, classes or studies from 7:45 to 11:45, lunch at 12:00, classes or studies from 1:45 to 5:00, with an intervening recreation period from 3:15 to 5:00, dinner at 6:00 and an evening study period from 7:45 to 9:00. College students could extend the study time another hour if they wished. Shortly after the study period was over, lights were turned out in the student residences and in winter time heat was turned off till the next morning when the routine began again.

But there was some relaxation of the rules. Incoming and outgoing mail of college students was no longer subject to inspection, though this continued to be the rule for the Community and the high school students. Students were permitted a "town-day" on Wednesday afternoon to do their necessary business. But the 1936 Catalog (p. 15) extended town privilege for college students: "All students of the college department, except those preparing for the priesthood, are also granted permission to go to Rensselaer on one night of each week. To leave the campus at any other time, individual permission must be obtained from the Dean of Discipline. To go without permission renders the offender liable to dismissal."

The **graduation requirements** for the four-year college were stated in the 1936-37 Catalog, p. 36: "To graduate from the college it is necessary that the student shall have earned a minimum of 128 semester hours of credit. These must be distributed in such a way as to include one major and two minor sequences. The first minor sequence must be chosen from the same group of studies as the major sequence; the second minor must be chosen from one of the other groups . . . The student must have a general average

of 77% in all his work . . . The student must submit a thesis on some topic in his major field of study, which has been approved by his major professor."

Ordinarily Father Kenkel's term of office would have ended in June 1936. Since the office included also the position of Religious superior, in accordance with Church Law appointments were for three years. Though Father Kenkel finished his third term in June, he was asked to stay on for another semester so as not to cause disruption at the beginning of the College's new adventure as a four-year college.

### **1937: EIGHTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER RUFUS ESSER, C.P.P.S.**

1937 In the middle of January, 1937, Father Kenkel announced in the Priests' dining room that Father Rufus Esser, by Provincial appointment, would become President of the College at the beginning of the second semester, February 1st, and that he would continue also in the offices of Dean of Studies and Principal of the High School. Father Kenkel obtained a leave of absence till the fall semester for a needed rest and recuperation.

In March Father Esser suffered a breakdown and went to St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Chicago for medical checkup and treatment. Returning after two weeks, he was unable to take up his duties and in the first week of April went to Sacred Heart Sanatorium in Milwaukee for treatment and rest. Father Sylvester Hartman, Vice President, became acting President in Father Esser's absence. The Provincial appointed Father Henry Lucks to the office of Dean of the College; Father Walter Pax was appointed to act as Principal of the High School. Although recovering strength gradually, Father Esser asked to be relieved as his physician suggested, whereupon in June Father Cyril Knue was appointed President. Both Father Kenkel and Father Esser returned to the campus in September and resumed teaching assignments.

Prior to his appointment as President Father Esser had several times complained that he had too much work. In addition to his teaching assignments he held the jobs of Principal of the High School and Dean of Studies. The latter involved a great amount of work in this period when the College was just beginning its new existence as a four-year institution. Then to impose upon him the further duties of the presidency, which Father Kenkel evidently found burdensome enough by itself, was little short of cruel. Had the task of Dean of Studies and Principal of the High School been given to someone else, as was shortly done anyway, Father Esser might have been one of the more effective presidents of the College. As it was, his justly earned esteem rested upon his faithfulness to administrative duties before and after his

presidency and upon his excellence as a teacher over a span of fifty active years on the faculty, the longest time for any member. He was also famous as a keen observer of the passing parade of life and as an extraordinary raconteur. Like Chaucer's, his account of a trip, filled with humor and interesting details that most would pass over without notice, could last nearly as long as the trip itself. Even in retirement he remained a participant in campus affairs, and it was altogether becoming that at the time he was struck down by a heart attack he was preparing to spend an evening at a student event in the auditorium. He died September 30, 1977 at the age of 79. His memory lingers on lovingly with all who knew him.

### **1937-1938: NINTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER CYRIL KNUE, C.P.P.S.**

Father Cyril Knue became President on May 27, 1937, but was to remain in office only till June the following year. He was ordained in 1924 and entered Catholic University to study Chemistry and Physics. Having earned his master's degree in 1926 he joined the College faculty that fall. Gone for three years after his presidency on other assignments he returned to Saint Joseph's in September 1941, but died of a heart attack on February 1, 1943 at the age of 47.

The following constituted the new Board of Administration: Fathers Cyril Knue, President, John Schon, Vice President, Albin Scheidler, Treasurer, Edward Roof, Athletic Director, Walter Pax, Dean of Students, and Henry Lucks, Dean of Studies and Registrar. Father Rufus Esser re-assumed the office of Principal of the High School. Father Pax had replaced Fr. Fehrenbacher as Dean of Students because members of the Board of Trustees thought that discipline had been too lax the previous year. There would now be some complaint from students and faculty alike that under Fr. Pax discipline was too strict. Growing away from a seminary outlook would be a slow process.

The **old Indian School** was renovated and enlarged at a cost of \$46,000, the enlargement consisting of an extra row of rooms around the inside courtyard. It was named Drexel Hall in honor of Mother Katharine Drexel who had furnished the money to erect the Indian School. After the renovation there were individual rooms for thirty students, two dormitories, a study hall, a chapel, a recreation room, and accommodations for four faculty. When it was dedicated on November 7th, 1937, it housed three priests, one brother and fifty-seven students. Students were overjoyed at these new quarters and for quite some time living in Drexel would be considered a genuine privilege. For the first time this year, also, students in Drexel Hall were permitted to have radios in their rooms, a privilege not extended to students living in individual rooms in Science Hall.

After much discussion the Administration allowed the students to hold their **first formal dance**. "The crowning social climax to the present scholastic year was reached for fifty St. Joe men, many Alumni, and numerous friends, when they attended the Monogram Formal Dance on Saturday, May 1 . . . From the faintest tap of the drum to the stately dignity of our host, Rev. F.L. Fehrenbacher, C.PP.S., the quality of elegance and class was outstanding." (*The Collegian*, June, 1937, p. 497)

- 1937- *The Saint Joseph's Collegian*, after a long and honorable existence, came  
1938 to an end with the June 1937 number, and thereafter became four separate publications: **Stuff** (campus paper), **Measure** (literary journal), **Contact** (alumni paper) and **Phase** (yearbook). The first to appear was *Stuff*, whose initial number came out on October 1, 1937. Until *Contact* would be published in March, 1939, it carried also the alumni news. *Measure* was a quarterly and the Autumn number made its appearance on December 1, 1937. *Phase* would make its appearance in 1941. *Stuff* was a biweekly, printed at the Rensselaer Republican. The faculty directors were Fathers Sylvester Ley and Paul Speckbaugh. In an attempt to explain the name, an editorial in the first issue observed that by definition "stuff" is raw material to be worked up into something else. "Everything we do here in college is material to be worked up in the fashioning of ourselves as men. The raw material of our minds and souls is being turned to the making of a finished product."

The full-time faculty outside of Music for 1937-38 consisted entirely of priests. There were twenty-eight in all, of whom five had doctorates, 20 masters degrees, and the others had done graduate work. Many of these taught on both the high school and college levels.

The first Homecoming football game was played October 30th, 1937. The Alumni Day, previously held in the spring time, was dropped, as fall was seen to be a better time for the gathering.

- 1938 With an all male student body the selection of plays for the stage was severely limited. There were, of course, no women actors in Shakespeare's day, their parts being played by men. A similar custom, on a limited scale, had grown up at the College, of men in women's costumes playing female roles. But on several occasions in the previous year Father Robert Koch, director of dramatics, had requested permission to use women for these parts. The request was denied, but in its meeting of February 17th, 1938 the Administration granted the request of Fr. Harold Diller, Head of the Music Department, that Miss Pauline Tonner, daughter of Professor Tonner, be permitted to sing several numbers for the program which the orchestra would present in the Spring. There was the restriction, however, that she would not appear on stage but would sing back stage. The problem in regard to both dramatic and music programs was that seminarians participated in both, and

the Provincial and others were opposed to anything that would be seen as a danger to their vocation and formation.

In the spring of 1938 general dissatisfaction with Coach Raymond DeCook surfaced. The President cited the fact that DeCook had not been a practicing Catholic at Notre Dame and had shown no interest in things Catholic on campus. The Athletic Director said that he was not regarded with favor by the student athletes, that he had a habit of nagging players, had no personality, used poor judgment, took no suggestions from the outside or the director, and used poor psychology during games. It was clear that Coach DeCook's days at Saint Joseph's were numbered, and the motion in a meeting of the Board of Administration to release him was passed. This paved the way for the hiring of **Mr. Joseph Dienhart**, who came to the College from Indianapolis Cathedral High School in July at a salary of \$2500, and who would prove to be an outstanding coach, perhaps Saint Joseph's greatest.

Though Mr. Dienhart was interviewed and hired by Fr. Cyril Knue, he was to make his mark under Fr. Aloys Dirksen, the next president. With Dienhart's arrival on campus there was a veritable explosion in athletics, and though the College had just now emerged as a four year college, his teams went rapidly from mediocrity to excellence. He coached all three sports — football, basketball, baseball — in both college and academy, and both had outstanding records. Seven players of his 1942 baseball team, for example, signed professional contracts, including the famous Gil Hodges. He was convinced that his best basketball players could have been on any team in the country and that his best football players would have been outstanding on any Big Ten team. Dienhart, however, was not only a great coach, but a great man, who counseled his players in their personal problems, helped them get summer jobs, inspired them to greatness. Forty years later he could not only describe individual games in great detail, but could remember the names of his players and their personalities. He "brought to his coaching duties that rare and treasured combination of being a shrewd recruiter, motivator and sideline tactician, as well as a warm, responsive, communicative leader of the men he coached." (*BE*, p. 154)

Monday, June 6th, 1938 saw St. Joseph's **first graduation** as a four year college. The nine seniors who received bachelor's degrees were Andrew Bourdow, Norbert Dreiling, John McCarthy, Richard Kaple, Joseph Raterman, Richard Scharf, Paul Weaver, Richard Trame, and Joseph Westhoven. (Brother John Marling also received a bachelor's degree on this occasion.) The first seven received a degree in Accounting. The valedictorian was Richard Scharf, who in addition to being a three-sports letterman, was an all-around campus leader and good student. He would return to St. Joseph's College two years later and for the next forty-one years become a well known coach, faculty member, placement director, and director of athletics.



## 1938-1944: TENTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER ALOYS DIRKSEN, C.PP.S.

Father Dirksen was appointed President on August 1st, 1938. He was ordained in 1926 and spent one year as a teacher at Saint Joseph's before entering Catholic University of America, from which he received a doctorate of theology in sacred scripture. He taught scripture at Saint Charles Seminary 1931-38. He was president of the College 1938-44, which turned out to be six of the most progressive and exciting years in its history. Just as there was an explosion in athletics under Mr. Dienhart, there was an explosion of renovation and building under Fr. Dirksen, the money being borrowed from the Society of the Precious Blood. Father Dirksen, like the newly elected Provincial, Father (later Bishop) Joseph Marling, who appointed him, was an energetic and progressive man. He was also a scholar. After he left Saint Joseph's as president he taught at Notre Dame University, Saint Charles Seminary, again at Saint Joseph's, and finally at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati. Meanwhile he published two books, *A Life of Christ* in 1952 and *Elementary Patrology* in 1959. In addition to his work in education he was also pastor of Precious Blood Church in Fort Wayne 1944-47, and on two different occasions pastor of Saint Rose Church in Mercer County, Ohio, for about three years. He died of cancer on Christmas Day 1967 at the age of 66.

1938- The school year opened September 14, 1938, with 345 students, the largest  
1939 enrollment to date. Of these the college freshman class made up 135, also a record. To house this increased enrollment Dwenger Hall was changed into a residence for freshmen, with the Infirmary occupying the basement floor. Drexel Hall was jammed to overflowing with 13 seniors, 38 juniors and 40 sophomores, for a total of 91. The remaining students were housed in the Main Building and in Science Hall. Several classrooms on the second floor of the Main Building were renovated and converted into living rooms for priests, and the north study hall was partitioned into a smaller hall and two classrooms.

The faculty consisted of 38 persons, of whom 34 were priests, two brothers and two laymen. Father John Schon became Treasurer of the College in place of Father Albin Scheidler who had been treasurer since 1925. Father Walter Pax became Chairman of the Education Department, with Father Werner Rauh succeeding him as Prefect of Discipline. Father Fred Fehrenbacher was made Vice President.

For the first time since 1925 the Community students, sixty or so in number, had their own prefect of discipline, who was Father Othmar Missler. They also broke away from the Columbian Literary Society and formed their own drama and literary society, called **Curtain Club**. The change was meant to

give them opportunities which they could not find in the C.L.S., and in turn to encourage more of the other students to become active in the C.L.S. The seminarians will become progressively more isolated until a complete reversal takes place after Vatican Council II. Another thing that set them off sharply from the other students before Vatican Council II was the fact that, apart from work and recreation, they wore the cassock.

There were some modifications of discipline for the secular students. Attendance at daily Mass was made optional, though students continued to attend in great numbers. Upper-classmen college students were permitted to leave campus at any time during the day. Freshmen and high school students, however, were restricted to campus.

Among the changes that were welcomed was the installation of a **new telephone system** which, with a central switchboard, allowed telephones throughout the campus.

In a meeting of August 3, 1938 the Board of Trustees granted the College permission to admit **non-Catholic day students** who lived with their parents. Up till this time the Purpose of the College was stated thus: "To develop young Catholic men of physical vigor, sound scholarship, and fine spiritual outlook, loyal sons of the Church and State, and thus to realize the ideal of Pope Pius XI, is the constant aim of St. Joseph's College." The 1939-40 Catalog (p. 9) distinguished between Purpose and Aims and stated the Purpose thus: "To the purpose of developing youth into men of physical vigor, sound scholarship, and fine spiritual outlook; into loyal christians and loyal citizens, St. Joseph's College is irrevocably dedicated." Though the purpose is no longer "to develop young Catholic men," the aim still remains to impart to all students "a good Catholic education." Though shortly by way of exception there will be non-Catholic students living on campus also, the policy restricting them to day students will not be lifted until 1951.

When Dwenger Hall was converted into a freshman residence, there was need for an annex to the basement infirmary. And so during Christmas vacation the L-shaped dormitory above the Chapel sacristy and priests' oratory was made over into two wards, two private rooms, a living room, increased lavatory facilities, and a diet kitchen.

1939 On January 30, 1939 it was decided to grant **athletic scholarships** for the first time. The decision was to grant ten full scholarships, in return for which the athletes would have to hold a job in addition to playing. It was understood, also, that they would live in a dormitory instead of individual rooms, which were more expensive. The justification given for granting athletic scholarships was that they were needed to field the kind of teams that would provide good student morale and that would act as a tool in recruitment of new students. Permission was also given for the organization of varsity teams in golf and tennis.

**Women's roles** in C.L.S. dramas were taken by women for the first time in "The Nut Farm" staged on the eve of Washington's Birthday, 1939. The four female parts were played by girls from Rensselaer C.Y.O. (Catholic Youth Organization). The four girls were Ruth Kanney, Lois Kingman, Pauline Tonner and Josephine Zimmer. Since the seminarians now had their own drama club, the earlier objection to women in College plays was gone.

The Indiana State Department of Education in the Spring granted the College accreditation as a **Teacher Training School** in courses leading to regular High School licenses in English, French, Physical Education, Greek, Mathematics, German, Speech, Music, Latin, Spanish, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Commerce.

*Contact*, the Alumni paper, made its debut on March 1, 1939. The editors were Father Sylvester Ley and Edward Fischer. Mr. Fischer had been hired on February 1st to direct publicity and head up the News Bureau. He had graduated in 1934 from Saint Joseph's when it was still a Junior College, and completed his undergraduate work at Notre Dame for a degree in Journalism. After spending the last three years of World War II in the far East, where he was a military historian of the Burma Campaign, he came back to Saint Joseph's for a brief period. He then returned to Notre Dame where for over thirty years he would have a distinguished career as professor of English and Films, publishing numerous articles and more than a half dozen books. He brought to his work a lively style and keen sense for interesting detail.

In the meeting of March 3, 1939 it was decided by the Administration to issue a separate Catalog for the High School. Up till now there had been in the one Catalog a separate section of those items that pertained to the High School alone, and students were listed separately in the register or roster.

The High School Varsity, known as the Junior Cardinals, went through their basketball season without losing a game, winning all fifteen. They were invited to the Indiana Catholic Tournament in Fort Wayne. But there they lost in the first round 31-30 to the team from Michigan City. Despite this loss the team was chosen as one of thirty-two to appear in Chicago for the National Catholic Basketball Tournament. Here they won the first two games, beating tournament favorite, Mount Carmel of Chicago, but lost the third game, 33-30, to Saint George of Evanston.

On Sunday, April 16, 1939 a **coffee shop** was opened in the basement of Gaspar Hall, under the management of Brother David Schneider. By the fall it was under the management of Brother Cletus Scheuer, and through a contest devised by him it was named the "J Cafe". It served much the same fare and purpose as the snack bar does today in Halleck Center. For many years prior to this, part of the area served as a candy store. When Raleigh Hall was erected in 1947 the snack bar moved there and the area under Gaspar Hall became the bookstore until the erection of Halleck Center.

On June 21, 1939 it was announced that the name of the varsity was changed **from Cardinals to Pumas**. There was a story that a puma, a mountain lion, was seen in Jasper County. So the name was chosen to give the teams a name more in accord with the fighting spirit of the Saint Joe men. The High School varsity was given the name Puma Cubs.

1939- In the fall of 1939 the College's examinations were held monthly and grades  
1940 were sent to parents and guardians. Along with the monthly grades parents also received an account of the student's talent, effort, integrity, judgment, appearance, and social adaptation. The estimate on these six points was derived by the Dean of Studies on the basis of marks handed in by each teacher who had the student in class.

The earliest of the new buildings to go up was **Seifert Hall**, named after the first President, Father Augustine Seifert. It was begun on June 21, 1939 and even though the opening of school was delayed till September 22, it was not ready for occupation, thus giving rise to many problems, for there had been a twenty percent increase in the student body. But the building was dedicated on October 29th, the day after Homecoming, and by that time there were 85 students in the hall, having moved in from dormitories in the Main Building, from the first and third floors of Dwenger Hall and from the rooms of Science Hall. When the building was fully occupied it held 150 students. A statue of Fr. Seifert, donated by the architect, A.M. Strauss of Fort Wayne, stands in front of the hall. Originally the hall was one area, but a wall erected in the first and second floor corridors in the summer of 1941 divided it into East and West Seifert. The wall has since been removed.

During the summer Drexel Hall underwent some modification. The third floor dormitories were made into seven rooms, raising the number of individual rooms to thirty-five. The club rooms on the first floor were made into dormitories.

Homecoming 1939 saw the revival of **college boxing** on campus, with three three-round bouts. In the next couple of years boxing was to become very popular as an intercollegiate sport, with St. Joseph's having some fine performers. It was only in later years that boxing was dropped as a college sport nationwide.

It was decided to have faculty meetings every week during the school year. Every Tuesday the priests would meet in what was called a **Congressus** to decide not only College matters but also matters of the religious household such as week-end parish assignments. Four times a year, at the beginning of each quarter, the brothers and laymen listed in the Catalog under faculty, which at this time included six brothers and five laymen, some of whom would be called staff today, were invited to attend with the priests a meeting called a **Convocation**. Most decisions were made by the Congressus, or by the Board

of Administration to which only priests belonged and which met irregularly about seven or eight times a year. The function of the Convocation was primarily to listen to reports from the Academic Department heads and from the administration and staff.

- 1940     The building program begun with the construction of Seifert Hall exploded into a boom with the erection of the **Fieldhouse, Xavier Hall and Merlini Hall**. It was thought best to begin building in 1940 while prices were comparatively low (World War II was already in progress), especially since it was expected that the debt could be amortized in two or three years. As it turned out, mainly because of the War, amortization was never possible and the total debt to the Society of the Precious Blood of \$298,000 for construction work would be written off by the Society in 1950. The contracts for the building of the Fieldhouse, Merlini and Xavier went to the Market Street Construction Co. of Logansport, Indiana. The principal figures in the Company were the Medland family who had done all the building for the first twenty-five years of the College.

In a meeting at the College April 6-7, 1940, the President of the Alumni Association promised that the funds for the erection of the Fieldhouse would be furnished in full by the Alumni. For that reason the building was named **Alumni Fieldhouse**. Though valiant efforts would be made by the Association, and by Father Dirksen in frequent appearances before Alumni Chapters, it turned out that the funds thus raised were insufficient, and most of the money had to be borrowed by the College.

At a meeting of the Provincial Council on April 4, 1940, it was decided to erect a separate building for the Community students at a cost of \$65,000. It was to be large enough to house 85 students with the necessary dormitories, study halls, locker rooms, recreation and club rooms, two rooms for the Rector and Assistant Rector, and an extra room for the bishop when he was visiting on campus. The building, called **Xavier Hall**, would meet the desire of the Community that the seminarians have a greater degree of separation from the other students than was feasible in the past. They would move into the building during Christmas vacation 1940.

With the removal of the Community students to Xavier Hall the south end of the Main Building was renovated and rooms built for the Brothers, who at the time were living in rooms above the powerhouse. The building of rooms for the priests on the second and third floors of the central portion of the Main Building was completed in the summer of 1940, and this allowed Gaspar Hall to be made into a student residence in time for the opening of school. The north end of the Main Building was set aside exclusively for the High School Department, thus separating it from the college students, as was demanded by the Indiana Department of Public Instruction. It was also the hope of the Administration that within a very short time a very formidable

High School unit could be built, since the high school department was one of the more profitable ventures connected with the running of the total institution.

To complete accommodations for the college students, the white frame building north of Dwenger Hall was razed and **Merlini Hall** (then called Noll Hall) was put in its place. The frame building had been the school house of the old Orphanage, and was currently used to house hired men at the College. When the Brothers moved into the Main building the workers then moved to the rooms above the powerhouse that had been vacated by the Brothers. Merlini Hall, erected at a cost of \$35,000, would in the beginning house 80 students, 60 of them in dormitories and study-hall, and the rest in fourteen individual rooms in the southwest wing.

When this building program was completed, making possible a student body of 600, the College authorities thought that the material aims of the College were accomplished and that both the enrollment and the building program could now be stabilized. Little could they know that in scarcely more than a decade another building boom would begin that would dwarf the present one, adding five more student residences, a Student Center and a Community Building, and that Saint Joseph's would at one point see its enrollment soar to 1454.

"The evening of May 8, 1940 was a gala one for the members of the Monogram Club. 250 persons, members of the club and their guests, were in attendance at the annual athletic banquet which, this year, was held in the basement auditorium of the new St. Augustine's church, Rensselaer. The guest of honor and principal speaker of the evening was Mr. Arch Ward, sports editor of the *Chicago Tribune*." (*Gasparian*, May 1940, p. 3)

Over the summer the **library was moved** from the third floor on the north end of the gymnasium building to the former Raleigh Club at the south end of the building. This was done for two reasons: to remove the library from the noise and disturbances of the Music Department and to locate it more centrally on campus. The Raleigh Club was moved to the north end of the building to what had been the high school club rooms, which were now incorporated with the other high school facilities on the north end of the Main Building.

1940- The building program was delayed three weeks. The steel shipments for  
1941 the new buildings had been deferred to give preference to Government orders. As a consequence the opening of school was delayed till October 2. Because of the delayed opening, students were able to move directly into Gaspar and Merlini Halls when they arrived. The seminarians, however, did not get into their new quarters until the end of December. The Fieldhouse would be ready late in the second semester, but would not be dedicated until the fall of 1941.

In the fall of 1940 the College changed from D.C. electrical current, which it had been on since 1909, to A.C. through the installation of a new generator in the powerhouse. At this time Drexel Hall, which had been receiving current from Rensselaer, was hooked up with the College powerhouse.

In the fall of 1940 *Stuff* became a four-page weekly paper. It had been a four-page biweekly. The amount of material published, however, remained the same since the biweekly had been printed on large newspaper size pages, and the new format was only half that size, similar to today's numbers.

In October the College began a **course in flying** in cooperation with the Civil Aeronautics Authority. The course was taught in three ten-week segments. Ten men were selected for the course by an ability test preceding each period of instruction. Use of the plane, insurance, physical examination and transportation to and from the field was included in the twenty-five dollar fee for the course.

World War II, though going on, was not yet involving the country directly nor the College. But it was not overlooked, since October 16, 1940, saw America's **first peace-time registration** for possible military service. The College had its own draft board — one priest and two brothers from campus, the pastor of the Catholic Church in town, and the chief civilian registrar — which had the task of registering all men on campus ages 21-35, including the clergy, though the latter were exempt from conscription. The total number registered was about 100, some of whom would soon join what up till that time was the country's largest peace-time army.

The fall of 1940 began the **fiftieth year** of the College. During the Jubilee Year of 1940-41, *Stuff* ran a regular column by Bob Wendeln entitled "Before our Time". The purpose was thus described: "Bringing to light that which is now almost ancient history for Collegeville is the purpose of this column. The first catalogues and publications together with other sources concerning the first years of St. Joseph's will be the main channels for material." (*Stuff*, October 2, 1940, p. 2) Some of these "other sources" were recollections of people on the campus and also written accounts solicited from alumni, some of whom had been here at the opening of the College: for example, Father Nicholas Greiwe, C.P.P.S., who was in the first graduation class, sent in twenty-four typewritten pages, single-spaced, of reminiscences. Some of these were also used in the historical parts of the first *Phase*. This column did fine work in informing students about former days and the spirit that prevailed. One cannot help being impressed also by the spirit and enthusiasm that existed in the jubilee year and the years around it, as manifested in sports, drama, music, literary work, religious activities, clinics and conferences, and outside speakers and entertainers. A glance at any edition of *Stuff*, say one of those in the fall of 1940, reveals a great variety of activities reported in length and with great verve. It had to be an exciting time to be a student.

1941 During the second semester Father Clement Falter was released to go out on the road for the recruitment of students. Ever since 1932 the faculty had been recruiting during the summer months. Apparently need was arising to visit the high schools earlier in the recruitment period. He visited about a hundred Catholic High Schools in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin. His classes in modern romance languages were taken over by other professors for the time being.

In January, 25 students went out for **boxing**, training under coach Jack Miller, a former professional fighter from Rensselaer. Though there had been boxing teams in the earlier years and in recent years, this was the first attempt to field an intercollegiate team. "The Puma pugs won their first team victory over Valparaiso's leather pushers last Wednesday night, by winning three of the five intercollegiate bouts. It was St. Joseph's debut in the ring, and the interest aroused by the results assures a permanent berth for boxing on the St. Joe's athletic schedule." (*Stuff*, Feb. 12, 1941, p. 1) Some years later boxing was dropped nation-wide as a collegiate sport.

A part of the fiftieth year celebration of Saint Joseph's was the blessing of Noll Hall (now Merlini) and Xavier Hall by Bishop Noll of Fort Wayne on April 30, 1941, the feast of the patronage of Saint Joseph. The Solemn Mass was followed by a jubilee dinner for more than 150 priests who had returned for the occasion. Among them was **Father John Cogan**, oldest alumnus, and member of the first graduating class, who had come as a student in 1892, the second year of St. Joseph's, and played an important role as a student and part-time instructor in those pioneer days of the College. There would be further celebrations on Alumni Day in the spring, mainly for the clergy, and on Homecoming in the fall, mainly for the laity.

Graduation was held on June 8, 1941 for 35 seniors, largest graduation class to date. In addition there were also 19 academy seniors who received diplomas. The Commencement speaker was Congressman **Charles Halleck** of Rensselaer, who was to be a prominent member of Congress for 34 years. Because of his interest in and support of the College, the Student Center, erected in 1962, was named in his honor.

To commemorate the Golden Anniversary of the College the first Year Book was issued entitled **Phase 1891-1941 Golden Anniversary Edition**. It was a superb piece of work, probably never equalled by any edition since. It was bound in a brown and gold leather cover upon which was embossed the twin towers of the chapel. The book was made up of three sections, all in color: history of St. Joseph's by decades in gold, faculty and students in blue, and athletics in red. Excellent and extensive art work was done by Charles Peitz, a 1941 graduate, who had been doing artistic work from his freshman days. Elements of his work can still be seen in places on campus.



The College was supplementing its regular income by a more aggressive use of its facilities during the summer months by retreats, servers picnics, and meetings of various kinds. Thus on September 7th, 1941, the campus was host to 1100 young men and women who attended the diocesan CYO conference. This kind of activity helped to advertise the College and to gain the good will of those in a position to promote the welfare of the College.

- 1941- School opened for the High School September 10th, the same day on which  
 1942 the College freshmen enrolled for three days of orientation. The total enrollment of the three groups — Community, high school, and college students — was 475, a new high. They came from 18 States and one foreign country. The leading States were Indiana with 115, Ohio with 94, Illinois with 92, Kentucky with 27, and Michigan with 14. The leading Departments were Accounting with 72, Pre-engineering with 59, Pre-Med with 50, and Physical Education with 35.

“Coach Dienhart is spending most of his time bewailing fate. Fifteen of his best athletes have gone into the Armed Forces of the U.S. and with one of the most difficult football schedules in the history of the College ahead of him, the coach is looking forward to the pigskin season with little enthusiasm.” (*Nuntius Aulae*, August, 1941, p. 4) This gloomy assessment turned out to be totally wrong. The team would go undefeated and the season would become part of a **21-game winning streak**, the longest in Saint Joseph’s history.

**The Fieldhouse was dedicated** on December 8, 1941, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Giving speeches on the occasion were Father Edward Roof, member of the Athletic Board, Mr. Conrad Kellner, mayor of Rensselaer, Mr. J. Henry Hipkind, President of the Alumni Association, Father Aloys Dirksen, President of the College, and Bishop John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne Diocese, of which the College was at that time still a part. In the evening there was a basketball game in which Saint Joseph’s defeated Illinois Wesleyan 40-32. At that time the basketball court ran north and south, and the west end was a ground floor where baseball, football, track and other sports could be practiced. The floor would be turned to its present position and the boards laid on the west end in 1947. At the time of dedication, of the total cost of \$75,000, the Alumni Drive had secured pledges for \$31,000, of which about a third was already paid.

- 1942 Since the War was to affect all colleges, a meeting of college Presidents and Deans was held in Baltimore January 2-5, 1942, to advise colleges on ways to meet the emergency. The principal suggestion was to accelerate and accommodate the programs so that students would have an opportunity to meet requirements before being drafted. At Saint Joseph’s the school year

was shortened by about three weeks with graduation coming in the middle of May rather than the first week in June, and the program was arranged so that students could graduate in six semesters and two eight-week summer sessions. The government encouraged men to stay in college unless or until they were called up.

On Saturday, January 17th, 60 members of the Commerce Club journeyed to St. Francis College of Joliet, Illinois, a Catholic women's college, to be the guests of the students at a dinner dance. This was the beginning of a relationship which was to play an important part in the social life of the College through **dances called mixers**. These would continue not only with St. Francis but with a number of other women's colleges for more than twenty-five years until Saint Joseph's became co-educational.

By March of 1942 two of the Faculty were chaplains in the Army. Father Gilbert Esser, who had been in the reserves since 1936, entered active service on June 27, 1941. Father Clement Falter was commissioned on March 4th, 1942. His place at the College in romance languages, which he had occupied for the last ten years, was taken by Dr. Theodore B. Frank, who had fought in the Austrian Army in World War I, and had been a friend and adviser of Dollfuss and Schuschnigg in the Austrian government. He had done his graduate work in Vienna. On September 22, 1942, Edward Fischer, instructor in English and director of the News Bureau, would enter the Volunteer Officers Corps. The Chief of Chaplains at this time was a Saint Joseph's alumnus, namely Father (later Bishop) William Arnold, who had been very active in his student days (1896-1902) in military organizations on campus. He was the first Catholic to hold the position of **Chief of Chaplains**.

A Civilian Morale Committee was set up. Its main purpose was to relate the various activities of the Academic Departments, clubs, publications and other organizations to the needs of the country and the College in the time of war. Every Saturday night a number of students would gather in the auditorium to hear a talk on some phase of civilian defense and to watch several reels of pictures on the different kinds of military service. Dr. Theodore Frank, for example, talked on the present conditions in Europe, Mr. Edward Fischer described the seven techniques of propaganda, and Fr. Cletus Dirksen spoke on the true meaning of democracy.

The **first summer session** of the College, part of the accelerated war-time program, ran from June 8 to August 1, 1942. Students, including beginning freshmen, could earn eight semester hours of credit. There were 34 courses taught by 20 professors. For this first summer session there were 62 students, nine of whom finished requirements for graduation and almost immediately entered the Armed Forces.

1942- In spite of the war and the draft, school enrollment for 1942-43 on the  
1943 college level was the same as it had been the previous year, namely 394.

The high school, however, was down from 110 to 89. Of those on the college level, 190 were in the freshman class. The college programs of study in every department had been approved by the Army, Navy and Marines as suitable for the background of Officers' Training into which those who had enlisted would be inducted when their college program was completed. By the end of the school year over 160 of those registered in September will have left for the Armed Services.

The flag flew at half mast on the campus on December 9th, when a Solemn Requiem Mass was sung for **Father Clement Falter**, who had been killed while the American troops were making a landing against the French of North Africa at Fedahla on November 8th, 1942. Father Falter had been a member of the faculty in romance languages for ten years. The Mass was attended by eighty priests in addition to students, members of the American Legion in uniform, Knights of Columbus, and relatives and friends. He was the first American Army Chaplain killed in the European Theatre of the war.

On November 21, 1942, the Pumas ended their second undefeated football season in succession by crushing Valparaiso 32-0. But this was to be the end of the glory road in football for some time. Come the following fall Saint Joseph's enrollment will have dropped 40% because of the war and Mr. Dienhart, who brought the teams to their zenith, will be working for Purdue University.

On Sunday, November 22, a **plaque** was dedicated and set up in the vestibule of the chapel for all the alumni serving their country in the armed forces. The plaque was made of douglas fir, and bore the names imprinted in gold of the 200 alumni known at that time to be in the service, five of whom had already given their lives for their country. By the end of the war there would be 42 who lost their lives, and their names are found on a bronze plaque, which replaced the wooden one, erected in the vestibule of the Chapel by the class of 1949 on June 12, 1949.

1943 For the duration of the War, the United States War Department required all students to take a physical fitness course, which meant primarily compulsory exercises. The program at the College was begun on February 23rd and was under the direction of the coaching staff — Mr. Joe Dienhart, Mr. Richard Scharf and Brother Henry Kosalko. The course met twice a week for all students including varsity athletes.

In its meeting of March 19, 1943, the Board of Administration, and subsequently the Faculty, adopted a **new grading system**, effective in the next summer session, the index system that prevails today. Prior to the Summer Session of 1943 the College was on a numerical system with 60% being the lowest passing grade. In the new system A carried three quality points and F a negative 1. Because this point system could some times result in a negative index, it was found to be awkward and in 1955 the point values which the

College has today were adopted, namely that A equals 4 points and F equals zero point.

In the same meeting a loan program for the first time was set up through which a student could meet his unpaid bills at the end of the semester by signing an unsecured promisory note. Many years later unsecured loans, would become available to students through private, state and federal agencies, on the basis of which the College would be paid in cash at the beginning of the semester. But that kind of financial aid was still almost two decades away.

Since 1932 the first two years of Saint Joseph's were accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools as a Junior College. During this school year Saint Joseph's made application for accreditation as a four-year college, but in March, 1943, the application was denied on the basis that there was a variety of deficiencies in faculty, library, offices, etc. To strengthen the senior part of the college Father Aloys Dirksen, President, repeated in a meeting of the Provincial Council on May 9th, 1943, an earlier proposal that the Community students remain at the College four years instead of two, as they were now doing, and take a degree in Philosophy. A year later the delegates to a Provincial Assembly voted by a narrow margin to approve the proposal, but it was not implemented for another twenty-five years, not till some time after the erection of Schwietermann Hall.

The second semester had begun with 303 students in contrast to the 470 who had registered in September 1943. Pessimism was beginning to set in concerning the possibility of having sufficient college students for the coming fall. The suggestion was made that the institution stress the high school department and that thought be given to the idea of granting academic scholarships to bright eighth grade students as an inducement to enroll in Saint Joseph's Academy. In due course such emphasis was made and a scholarship program set up. The presence of the Academy is one reason why Saint Joseph's was able to weather the war years.

- 1943- The school year opened with an enrollment of 92 on the college level, of  
1944 whom 42 were Community students. By act of Congress religious ministers and students for the ministry were exempt from the draft, and this allowed the number of seminarians to remain unaffected. There were 91 students on the high school level, of whom 20 were fourth year Community students. Counting those who came in the second semester, the enrollment for the entire year was 104 in the Academy and 105 in the college department. Father Henry Martin became Prefect of Discipline for the Academy, succeeding Father Bernard Scharf, who became a chaplain in the Army.

Intercollegiate athletics were officially dropped by action of the Board of Administration. High School Varsity sports, however, continued and this year included six-man football. Mr. Richard Scharf, who had been the coach of

the Academy and assistant college coach since 1940, now, upon the departure of Mr. Dienhart, was put in charge of all coaching responsibilities.

It was also decided that *Stuff* would be published only ten times during the school year, and that *Measure* would be published only once a semester, and that *Phase* and *The Sanguinist* would be dropped. The latter was a paper published for some years dealing with religious issues on campus and in the Church. The Academy had been putting out their own Yearbook for the last two years, called *Twin Towers*. This would continue to be published.

Beginning this school year the **Registrar's Office was separated** from that of Dean, though they continued for the time being to occupy the same office space. Fr. Henry Lucks continued as Dean and Father Cletus Kern became Registrar. The duty of collecting student fees was taken out of the hands of the Registrar/Dean when during the previous year the Business Office was re-organized and took over that function.

Since the need for faculty was greatly diminished with the drop in enrollment, some priests were released to pursue further their higher studies. This school year seven left for that purpose and others would leave the following year.

"The College contributed to the war effort in the raising of twenty acres of hemp. . . The product was delivered to the hemp-mill at Remington where it went on its way toward the war-effort, another gesture of patriotism." (*Gasparian*, Feb. 25, 1944, p. 3) It should be noted that hemp, from which rope is made, is another name for **marijuana**, which has become well known in Jasper County, where it was first planted as a part of the war effort. It is a difficult plant to eradicate.

- 1944 Commencement was held on May 21, 1944, but none of the three receiving degrees were able to be present since they were in the service. (Eleven others had graduated August 1943 and six others in February 1944. At this time there were over 800 alumni in the Armed Services.) Because of a very small number of college graduates, the celebration was turned over to the graduation exercises of the Academy, from which twelve received their diplomas. The number did not include the eighteen Community students who completed their fourth year of high school. For some strange reason Community students during these years, though well qualified to do so, were not permitted to graduate from the Academy. Later, when the Academy was closed, they would graduate from Brunnerdale. These graduation exercises were the last official function for Fr. Dirksen as President, for on the next day, May 22, Father Henry Lucks became the eleventh President of the College.

## 1944-1948: ELEVENTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE REVEREND HENRY LUCKS, C.PP.S.

Father Henry Lucks was ordained in 1927 and was assigned to Saint Joseph's College, where he was popular in the classroom and on campus, known for his wit, genial ways and progressive outlook. He received his doctorate in Philosophy from Catholic University in 1936 and the same year returned to Saint Joseph's, where he became Dean/Registrar in 1937, and President on May 22, 1944. It was his task to see the College re-establish itself after the lean years of the war. Failing health, however, forced him to resign in September 1948, and the following February he became a professor of Philosophy at Saint Charles Seminary, Carthagen, Ohio. Well received as a teacher, he died there unexpectedly of a stroke on November 11, 1954 at the age of 53.

During the year 1943-44 the only student residence in use outside of Xavier Hall was East Seifert. In June, 1944, it was decided to use Noll (Merlini) and Gaspar Halls for Academy students, thus allowing individual rooms for high school students for the first time. The post office was moved out of the Administration Building, where it had been from its inception, to the north end of the old powerhouse. It was also announced that in the fall Father Joseph Kenkel would become a member of the faculty of Catholic University of America, where he would teach Economics for two years before returning to Saint Joseph's College. Father Walter Pax was appointed Dean of the College, while retaining his position as Principal of the High School.

The **Chicago Bears** chose Saint Joseph's College as the training site to prepare for the All-Star game to be played in Chicago. They arrived on August 9th, 1944, and for three weeks resided in Drexel Hall, while the practice field, the fieldhouse and the College dining room were made available to them. The idea of their coming here was originally planted by Father Edward Roof, athletic director, with Walter Halas, Vice President of the Bears organization. The idea came from Pat Sage of Rensselaer, who worked at the Halas Sporting Goods Store in Chicago, where Father Roof bought athletic supplies. Father Joseph Otte, Bursar and assistant Treasurer, followed up on the matter, and the College became the Bears' regular training camp for the next thirty years.

- 1944- The school year for the Academy opened September 4th, the secular enrollment having doubled over the previous year. There were 142 secular and  
1945 32 Community students for a total of 174 on the high school level. The College freshman orientation program began September 11th, with classes beginning the 18th. There were 40 secular students and 37 Community students for a total of 77. The complete enrollment for the institution was 251.

**Father Edwin Kaiser** joined the faculty and would spend 40 years at the college studying, reading, and writing. Over a long span of time as professor of Theology, Church History, and Philosophy here and at Saint Charles Seminary he was a tireless worker and voluminous writer. In his honor the College set up the Father Edwin G. Kaiser Faculty Scholarship Award given annually to a faculty member who has shown proficiency in scholarship and publications. What was said of him at the time he joined the faculty remained true: "His cheery presence, his lively and active academic interest, and his fund of inimitable wit are a boon to his fellow faculty members." (*Nuntius Aulae*, October 28, 1944, p. 11) He died in 1984 at the age of 90.

On September 25, 1944, Saint Joseph's College was approved as a school for the education of war veterans under the **G I Bill of Rights**. The G I Bill was to be one of the greatest pieces of social legislation in U.S. history, allowing millions of veterans to attend college, and sparking an explosion in enrollment at colleges after the war. St. Joseph's was to benefit through attendance of hundreds of G I's, who because of their maturity and motivation were to change the campus atmosphere.

The College was profoundly shocked on the evening of October 8th at the **death of Father Paul Speckbaugh**, who had been a member of the faculty since 1936. He and a companion were walking on the highway towards Rensselaer when he was struck by a passing car near the north campus and killed instantly. Saint Joseph's suffered an irretrievable loss, inasmuch as Father Speckbaugh was a vibrant and creative person who inspired the best in all who met him. His doctoral dissertation, "Some General Canons of Literary Criticism Determined From an Analysis of Art," was published and was used as a textbook here and elsewhere and is even today considered a classic in the field. His remembrance was renewed in recent years by the Father Paul Speckbaugh Memorial Lectures given by his friend and fellow faculty member, Mr. Edward Fischer.

The new **Diocese of Lafayette**, of which Saint Joseph's is a part, was created in November, 1944, and the first bishop was John G. Bennett, an alumnus of the College, having been a student here during 1906-09. He was beloved by the people of the diocese and was a good friend of the College.

1945     The **Trapp Family Singers** entertained the students and faculty on January 24th in a concert of church and folk music of many lands. Their rendition of *Stille Nacht* was quite authentic since it had been composed in the parish from which they had migrated. Their story and their music were to be made famous some years later in the well known musical "The Sound of Music." Their home in Salzburg, Austria, was bought by the Society of the Precious Blood and is now the headquarters of the C.P.P.S. Teutonic Province.

On April 13, 1945, Saint Joseph's bought its last parcel of land, 40 acres that had belonged to Elmer and Amy Phegley, lying in the southwest corner

that includes present Lake Banet. The purchase brought the land holdings of the College to 1692 acres. For some thirty years the area was the scene for the extensive extraction of gravel. Directly north of this area, the College sank wells that were shallow enough to avoid sulphur water but deep enough to produce a supply of water sufficient for its needs. After five tries a sixth well was found to be suitable and the conversion to **non-sulphur water** took place the following year.

A **new sidewalk** into town was also begun in the summer to replace the one put down by Father August Seifert. The old one ran between the fence and the highway, but it had become almost unusable. The new one, at this time still a blacktop walk, was put inside the fence and the tree line, where the present concrete walk is now, some distance from the road. It might be observed that had this walk been put in a year earlier, Father Speckbaugh would not have been forced to walk on the highway where he was killed.

**World War II ended** on August 14, 1945, and those old enough to remember know exactly what they were doing when the news came. Here at Saint Joseph's "The official announcement of the cessation of the war in the Pacific electrified Collegeville as it did the whole nation. The chapel bells rang out in joyful celebration while fervent prayers of thanksgiving rose to the lips of all . . . The end of the war will probably have no noticeable effects upon the very small enrollment in the College department." (*The Gasparian*, September 5, 1945, p. 1) The same issue noted that among the 200 high school students there would be two black students, whose admittance was a new adventure for Saint Joseph's. None had ever applied before.

1945- School opened on September 16th with 83 students on the college level,  
1946 of whom 34 were Community students, for a grand total of 325. For the first time the Academy fielded an eleven man football team; in the past because of its size it had been able to play only six-man games.

The entire first floor of Gaspar Hall was now being used for publications and the offices of public relations, the change having been made during the summer. The new arrangement included the Alumni Office which now had sufficient room to welcome visiting alumni. The offices would remain here until the rooms were needed for college students, after which they would move to rooms above and south of what was then the post office.

**The NFCCS** (National Federation of Catholic College Students), which had become practically defunct during the war, was revived. Mr. Ralph Capuccilli, sophomore, later Doctor and Chairman of the Communications Department, was one of the officers on campus. The purpose of the federation was to bring a strong Catholic presence on campus especially through strengthening Student Councils and affiliating them with similar councils at other Catholic Colleges. It would play a very active role on campus for another decade.



It was announced in December, 1945, that the **High School Department would be discontinued**, that no freshmen would be admitted the following fall, but that those students currently enrolled would be able to complete their work and graduate. The decision was made in spite of the fact that the Academy was growing and that a year earlier the Administration had made a concerted effort to increase enrollment and had re-affirmed its intention not only to keep the High School Division, but to enlarge it and even to seek funds from the Board of Trustees to erect a separate building. But without a new building, funds for which were not forthcoming, there would not be room on campus when the veterans started enrolling in large numbers. The decision to close was greatly aided by the fact that many of the faculty were reluctant to teach in the Academy, mainly because of disciplinary problems in the classrooms. Though there were many excellent students and fine young men in the student body, there was a feeling among the faculty that there was a growing number of parents who were viewing the Academy as a kind of "reform" school for problem boys. There was also the conviction on the part of some that boarding high schools had seen their days since most communities now had their own schools.

- 1946 The second semester brought about not only an increase in the general enrollment but the first big wave of **returning veterans**. Fifty-four veterans joined the four veterans who were here the previous semester. Of the fifty-four, twenty-seven were returning to Saint Joseph's to continue their education, and twenty-seven were new. Six of the veterans were married, five of whom planned to live in Rensselaer with their wives. All the veterans were able to take advantage of the educational benefits of the G I Bill of Rights. Among the faculty returning was Mr. Ed Fischer who resumed his duties in the news department on April 1st. Other faculty returning from their army chaplain duties were Fathers Gilbert Esser and Bernard Scharf.

On January 23 **Father John Schon**, Treasurer of the College for the past eight years, died at the age of 46 from a cerebral hemorrhage. After getting his master's degree in Physics he began teaching in the Science Department in 1931, but he was best remembered as a capable and energetic Treasurer. He was succeeded in office by **Father Joseph Otte**, who proved himself equally capable and energetic, a man of ideas and drive, who played a vital part in the growth of the College and in its accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

A Puma "B" team began playing some off-campus teams in basketball the second semester, but the restoration of a genuine intercollegiate program would wait till the fall of 1946. In April Richard Scharf and Art Cosgrove signed three-year contracts to coach football and basketball respectively. They would also assist each other.

In anticipation of an enrollment of 600 or more, a series of coordinated renovation projects was undertaken in the summer. Since it was impossible

to seat 600 people at one time in the dining room, a **cafeteria system** was adopted, though the priest, brothers, and Community students continued the custom of having the food put on the table by waiters. Miss Margaret O. Brown, a professional dietician, was hired as the Director of Food Service; she was a graduate of the University of Illinois where she had been cafeteria manager for several years. For greater sanitation the maple-wood floors in all the dining rooms were replaced by asphalt tile. The wood flooring was salvaged and used to cover the ground area on the west end of the Fieldhouse for intramural courts. At the same time the main basketball court was turned from a north-south to an east-west direction.

**The library was expanded** so that what had been the main area now became the reading and reference room only. The old basketball court was made into two floors to constitute the stack rooms and offices as they are now except for the north end. The boards that were removed were also used as part of the flooring of the west end of the Fieldhouse. The old Turner Hall on the north end was made into two floors as part of a dormitory to accommodate 40 students. Later these two floors would also become a part of the present library.

1946- The school year opened on September 22 with the largest enrollment of  
1947 the College till that date. There were 514 college students and 101 high school students for a total of 615. There were 329 war veterans, about half of whom were students returning to Saint Joseph's. There were 323 students in the freshman class alone, and probably as many as 100 applicants had to be rejected for lack of space. There were a total of 68 Community students, of whom 27 were on the high school level, leaving only 74 secular students in the three years of the Academy. It was obvious that after the announcement that the Academy would close in three years, many students did not return. In spite of the small numbers the Academy had a very good year in varsity athletics, since most of the students were on the junior and senior level.

*Stuff*, which for the last three years had been published as a monthly, now again became a weekly paper. In format and content it remained the same, with four pages, one of which was regularly devoted to athletics.

A new office of **Director of Student Welfare** was set up with a wide variety of responsibilities. It was in charge of guidance, all student affairs except athletics, and the College Forum (outside speakers). Within the area of guidance was the Faculty Adviser System, under which each student filled out a guidance report for his personal faculty adviser who provided counsel for his students in educational, vocational and personal matters. The first director was Father Edward Maziarz.

Returning veterans, when asked what changes they liked since they were here the last time, stated among others these items: relaxation of some of the rules particularly those concerning town privileges, improvement in meals

and cafeteria style of eating, the higher caliber of entertainment shown in the auditorium, the new faculty adviser system, the new office of Director of Student Welfare in which student problems could be brought to a quick head, and a better organization of the whole administrative set-up. Though discipline was relaxed there was a mandatory study period in the evening and lights were out in student residences at 10:00 P.M.

- 1947 At a meeting of the officers of the Alumni Association it was decided that a full-time secretary to take care of the vast amount of correspondence in connection with *Contact* and other alumni activities should be engaged by the Association. Accordingly Mr. Paul Monastyrski of Whiting, Indiana, came to the campus to take up the duties of secretary.

In March of 1947 the Administration decided to seek temporary housing from the government for another 250 students. It was argued that not only would this enhance the income of the College, since there would be no need for additional facilities and little need for further faculty, but with the increase in enrollment the College would have a better opportunity to get government aid for a new permanent building. There was a bill pending in Congress which would permit the government to pay the difference in building costs between 1939-40 and the present. The temporary housing was never obtained, but a few years later dormitories would be erected with low cost government subsidized loans.

On February 9th, 1947, the College was host to the congress of the Fort Wayne region of the National Federation of Catholic College Students. More than 275 delegates were in attendance representing Notre Dame, St. Francis, Nazareth, Aquinas and St. Joseph's. Inclement weather prevented 70 delegates of St. Mary's College from attendance. Among resolutions passed were: 1) opposition to radio and motion picture propaganda advocating birth control, planned parenthood and divorce, 2) that national conscription in peace time was a violation of the American way of life, and 3) that there be an inter-racial organization on each campus and a scholarship fund be set up to enable black students to attend college.

In February the school publications and alumni files moved out of the first floor of Gaspar Hall, where they had been for the last year and a half, into the new quarters on the first and second floors south of the post office. This area had been part of the old powerhouse at one time.

A war surplus building was given to the College and transported and set up as a recreation building at government expense. The erection of what became known as **Raleigh Hall** was begun on April 15, 1947. Its erection added enormously to the recreational and snack bar facilities of the College. It would also become the rendezvous for faculty and students between classes and during recreation periods. It was replaced as a recreation area with the construction of Halleck Center in 1962. But its reputation for coziness, warmth

and the ability to establish rapport between faculty and students was never re-captured. The College later received another war surplus building which was used at first as a warehouse and later became the present carpenter shop. In the hope that it might some day become a gymnasium for the Community students, it was erected on high foundation walls. The idea of its becoming a gymnasium was later abandoned.

There were various renovations during the summer. The dormitories and the study hall in Noll (Merlini) Hall were changed into individual rooms. The basement of the Administration Building underwent changes to provide much needed rooms for students. Eventually these rooms would become faculty offices. In addition to the two buildings, Raleigh Hall and the warehouse, the College was able to procure a great deal of other war surplus equipment, such as beds, office furniture, etc.

1947- - The School year opened September 14th with 601 students on the college  
1948 level and 40 on the high school level for the largest enrollment to date. On the college level there were 298 freshmen, 211 sophomores, 75 juniors and 52 seniors. There were 31 day students. This would be the **last year for the Academy**. After this year the Community students would spend their fourth year of high school at Brunnerdale. But the hope of the Administration, still alive in the spring, that the seminarians would spend all four of their college years at Saint Joseph's was not to be realized for nearly another two decades.

On November 3rd a testimonial dinner was given for **Dr. Cecil E. Johnson**, who had completed twenty-five years of service as the college physician. In his address Dr. Johnson had high praise also for Mr. Peter Heimes, who had died during the summer, June 28th, after spending twenty-six years of dedicated service to the College as a registered nurse. Present at the same dinner was Dr. Gage, retired member of the North Central Association staff, who had been hired as a consultant in Saint Joseph's pursuit of full accreditation.

**Father John Baechle**, Assistant Professor of Biology, was well known on campus and elsewhere for his bird banding and bird photography. During the month of December, 1947, he had an exhibition of his photographs in the main lobby of the Natural History Museum (formerly Field Museum) in Chicago, consisting of seventy-one photos dealing with bird life and other zoological subjects. Because of his interest in these areas he was elected Chairman of the Zoological Division of the Indiana Academy of Science, and Secretary of the Inland Bird-banding Association and editor of its Bulletin. Over the last four years he had also given his slide lecture on birds 68 times to civic and educational groups.

1948 In March news was received from the North Central Association that the College had failed in its quest for regional accreditation. On March 16 in

a convocation the students were informed of the decision and given an explanation of what non-accreditation meant. It was pointed out that the College had actually made great progress in recent years and would strive to overcome the weaknesses pointed out by the Association. The faculty and administration immediately set about making a new self-study, and accreditation would follow two years later.

On April 15th Jim and Marian Jordan, better known to radio fans as **Fibber McGee and Molly**, were given an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in recognition of "outstanding good taste and all-round family acceptability," recognized as characteristic of the Catholic couple in 30 years of entertainment on stage and radio. The suggestion to honor them first came from Mr. James Malone, who was in charge of College advertising, and the ceremony did bring much publicity to Saint Joseph's.

Fibber McGee and Molly also ran number one on the **Radio Acceptance Poll (RAP)** conducted by the College. Saint Joseph's was the headquarters for the National Press Commission of the National Federation of Catholic College Students and took the lead in establishing the RAP. The program consisted in gathering weekly reports throughout the school year on the acceptability of the comedians on seventeen leading comedy shows on the four major networks. Each weekly report was made by a different group of students nationwide on each of the more than 180 member colleges of the organization. The tabulating was done by the students at Saint Joseph's. The shows were rated highly acceptable, acceptable, barely acceptable, and unacceptable or offensive on the basis of the question: "Would a stranger who said the same things as the radio performer in question be welcome in your home by all the members of the family?" Bob Hope was generally at the bottom of the rating. The Poll generated national publicity since the networks themselves cooperated with the project.

Commencement on June 6th, 1948, marked the last appearance of Academy students at Saint Joseph's. In the high school graduating class there were seven secular students and thirty-five Community students. There were 25 college graduates. Present for the commencement exercises was Clement Geiger, of the C.P.P.S. Teutonic Province, recently consecrated bishop for the Xingu mission of Brazil in South America.

Summer School began June 28th, and was memorable for the fact that **nuns were in attendance** for the first time. There were eleven nuns who lived in Drexel Hall. The attendance of the Sisters of various Orders, and especially C.P.P.S., would be a regular feature of many summer sessions to come.

The **National Catholic Building Convention and Exposition** opened on June 30 in the Stevens Hotel (now the Conrad Hilton) in Chicago under the sponsorship of Saint Joseph's College. It was directed towards priests and sisters who were contemplating new construction. The idea of the conven-

tion was first suggested in the summer of 1946 by Father John Lefko, C.P.P.S., of Whiting, Indiana, and was warmly endorsed by Cardinal Stritch of Chicago and Bishop Bennett of Lafayette among others. Registration for the Convention totaled 2200, including representatives from 33 States, two provinces of Canada and four foreign countries. Nine members of the hierarchy attended. Since both the exhibitors and the registrants considered it a huge success, and fulfillment of a long felt need, plans were immediately made for repeating the Convention in Chicago the following year.

### **1948-1951: TWELFTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER ALFRED ZANOLAR, C.P.P.S.**

Because of illness Father Henry Lucks resigned, and Father Alfred Zanolar assumed the office of President on September 22, 1948, ten days after the opening of the new school year. After his ordination in 1933, Fr. Zanolar attended Catholic University where he received a Master's Degree in Mathematics in 1935 and joined the College faculty the same fall. As a teacher he gained a reputation for his facility with numbers as well as for the rapidity with which he solved and presented mathematical problems. The principal achievements of his term were the accreditation by the North Central Association and the organization of a Board of Lay Advisors. He resigned the presidency on May 10, 1951. Subsequently he became novice master for the C.P.P.S. seminarians, rector of Brunnerdale Seminary, and chaplain for the Sisters of Notre Dame in Milwaukee, where he enjoyed an excellent reputation as a deeply religious, intense and energetic person. He died of a heart attack on August 26, 1958 at the age of 50.

The office of President and that of local C.P.P.S. Superior were always united in the same man, but to lighten the burden of the president, in September 1948 a **Vice-Superior** was appointed by the Provincial to exercise authority in the Religious House as a delegate of the President/Superior. The first one to hold this office was Father Charles Herber. A complete separation of the two offices would be made on July 1, 1957.

In October, at the recommendation of Dr. Neale, who was at this time acting as a consultant to the College in its quest for accreditation, a ten-man **Institutional Self-Study Committee** was appointed. The Committee was chaired by Father Joseph Kenkel, former President of the College, and met weekly. It was quite instrumental in the ultimate achievement of North Central accreditation. The Committee continued its work after accreditation.

A new Director of Food Service, **Miss Helen Skinner**, was engaged for the new school year. She succeeded Miss Clara Gabel, who had held the position for a year as a successor to Miss Margaret Brown, who had also

held the job for a year. There had been some problem with the director working with the Sisters, who were still the main kitchen work force, especially in the area of authority of the director and the Sister Superior. Miss Skinner, however, was able to get along well with the Sisters and also gained a reputation for providing very fine meals. She would long be remembered for her excellent work.

A new cooperative adventure began with the play, "The Late Christopher Bean", given on November 21-22 under the direction of Father Lawrence Heiman and Mr. Ralph Cappuccilli. For the first time **women from Saint Xavier College** in Chicago were invited to audition for the female parts in the play. This was the beginning of an agreement between the two schools that allowed the presentation of joint plays on both campuses.

- 1949 At a meeting of the President's Advisory Council, January 7, 1949, the following motion was passed: "That the president authorize the initiation of a committee consisting of three faculty members, chosen by the President, and three students, chosen by the student council, with such authority as might be delegated by the Dean of Men in matters of discipline." The suggestion and the motion were made by Father Charles Robbins, who was the Director of Student Welfare at the time. This was the first time in which students were to have direct participation in the development and enforcement of discipline. The Faculty Committee on Discipline, however, remained in existence to handle the more serious cases.

It was announced in February that knowledge of a **foreign language** would no longer be required for graduation except in Chemistry and the pre-medical program. Heretofore, all students had to take twelve hours of a foreign language. One reason for dropping the requirement was that some of the Departments complained that with the language requirement there was not enough room for more directly vocational courses. The departmental thesis, too, was dropped in favor of **comprehensive examinations** covering all four years. There was also a curriculum revision which called for a core program in general education required of all students in the first two years.

As a part of the general preparation for the North Central visitation a "**Statement of Administrative Policy**" was drawn up in April, 1949 and adopted by the faculty and Board of Control. It outlined in eight Articles the basic duties and rights of the faculty and administration in the government of the College. It would be revised in 1954, 1959, 1967 and 1976, and in the latest revised form is to be found in the Faculty Handbook. With the adoption of this Statement the President's Advisory Council became known officially as the President's Administrative Council.

On April 29, 1949, in preparation for a fund drive, the College, through contacts made by the Treasurer, Father Joseph Otte, received free of charge from **Bozel and Jacobs**, a public relations consulting firm, a ten page, single

spaced, analysis of the needs and problems of the College and recommendations for their solution. The document was a seedbed of ideas that generated a number of initiatives. Among the many items in the report were these observations and recommendations: 1) the firm had never worked with a college that restricted enrollment to one religion, 2) the firm had never worked with a college that was not accredited, 3) it recommended a full-time student recruiter, and 4) it recommended a Board of Lay Advisors. Each of these items was promptly addressed.

Bozel and Jacobs recommended that the College proceed with the fund drive without waiting for accreditation, which the firm thought was quite some time off. In this estimate they were wrong, for a year later, in March 1950, the College did receive North Central accreditation. They also recommended that the College admit non-Catholic students from outside the neighborhood and house them in Rensselaer and transport them back and forth to the campus. The faculty and administration, however, asked the Board of Control (Trustees) to lift the restriction against non-Catholic boarding students altogether as had been done in the case of day students in 1938, pointing out that, apart from the fact that enrollment would be helped, Saint Joseph's was almost alone among Catholic Colleges in maintaining the restriction. The Board, however, in 1949 refused to do so. The following year the request again was made and again refused. In 1951, however, the restriction was raised by a formal resolution of the Board of Control in its meeting of October 22.

May 1, 1949 saw the **first Parents Day** on campus. The purpose was to allow parents to become better acquainted with the place, the faculty and one another. The practice of having Parents Day has continued into the present, though the day is now observed in the fall.

The College again sponsored the National Catholic Building Convention and Exposition June 14-16, 1949, in Chicago. Its purpose was the same as that of the previous year, a service to those contemplating new construction, and the advertisement of the College. This was the last time it was held.

The changing nature of the College could be seen in the changing nature of the faculty. When the new Catalog came out in June, it showed that of the 58 full-time and part-time members of the teaching faculty, 16 were laymen. Only two years before there had been only four lay instructors.

For the summer school of 1949 by action of the Board of Control (Trustees) **other women besides nuns** were permitted to enroll. It would be quite some time, however, before women would be able to live on campus during the regular school year.

- 1949- The monastic type rules were beginning to give way for upperclassmen.  
 1950 In the fall for the junior-senior halls (Noll and Drexel) a) there was to be no regular checks, b) lights would not be turned out by a master switch, but



students were to turn them out themselves in their rooms by midnight, c) there were to be student committees set up to aid in the maintenance of discipline, and d) there was unrestricted use of cars.

Father Charles Herber, who had become the C.P.P.S. Religious Vice-Superior in 1948, now became in addition the **first College Chaplain**. Among his duties were the scheduling of all religious services, stimulating attendance at chapel exercises, and being spiritual director of the student body and in that capacity interviewing each student at least once a year.

In accordance with the recommendation of Bozel and Jacobs and with the hope of setting up a more efficient recruitment and placement program, Mr. George M. Smith, an alumnus, was hired to perform both tasks. As far back as 1932 members of the faculty had canvassed for students during the summer, and there were sporadic attempts at recruitment during the school year, but this was the first regular school year program. Recruitment at this time was not considered a function of the Registrar/Director of Admissions. It was his job as Director of Admissions to admit students and to pass judgment on their fitness for admission, but he did not have direct responsibility for recruitment.

- 1950 In the March 1st meeting of the Administrative Council the possibility was raised of having a **woman's college nearby**, either as a separate institution or as a unit of Saint Joseph's College. Consultation with Sisters in Chicago, Michigan and elsewhere was generally favorable. Though it was generally viewed as a recruitment measure and as an enhancement of campus life, it was specifically seen by Father Edward Maziarz, later Dean of the College, as part of a plan for a Family-Life Community College, a plan in which the College totally, curriculum and social life, would be organized around the family which was seen as an antidote to many ills of society. A major portion of the Council's fall meetings was spent in discussing the idea, but it was looked upon as too visionary and impractical. But a part of the idea was realized a few years later in the organization of the College faculty housing project in the woods south of the College.

In the June 28th meeting of the Administrative Council, in connection with the plans for a fund campaign, these were seen to be the immediate needs of the College: 1) a new residence hall for 250 students, a football stadium, and remodeling of and addition to the powerhouse, 2) faculty housing, 3) endowment for scholarships. It was hoped that part of the campaign for funds would be a drive for financial support from the parishes of the Diocese of Lafayette.

On July 1, 1950 **Mr. James Bogan** became Registrar, the only non-C.P.P.S. person to hold the position. He had worked in the Registrar's Office as a student, graduated in 1943 with a B.S. in Chemistry, became assistant registrar in 1946 and while assistant received a Master's Degree in Education in 1950

from Purdue University. He held the office for three years. He would later become a member of Saint Joseph's Board of Trustees.

- 1950- **Father Richard Baird, C.P.P.S.**, replaced Mr. George M. Smith as Ad-  
 1951 missions Counselor in charge of recruitment. This was to prove a most fruitful appointment, since Father Baird for the next decade carried out the task with energy, hard work and complete dedication. He was in charge of all recruitment literature and publicity, the visiting of high schools, and the entertainment of prospective students on campus. His task was to work with students up to the point of application, at which time the Registrar/Director of Admissions took over. In spite of the divided authority the arrangement worked out remarkably well. Father Baird also organized the first student Courier Club to help him with campus visits of parents and students.

Construction of permanent **football bleachers** and press box was begun during the summer and completed in time for the first home game on October 1st. Earl Reynolds, a national sports figure in roller and ice skating, whose home was in Rensselaer, contributed generously to the project through the efforts of the athletic director, Father Edward Roof. The bleachers remain today basically unchanged. The press box was replaced by a new and more elaborate one in the fall of 1989.

A **Board of Lay Trustees** was formed, consisting originally of eleven members, and met for the first time on December 8, 1950. Though they were called trustees, they were only advisors with no authority in the governance of the College. Their chief function was to give a layman's viewpoint on problems facing the College and its students. It was hoped that they would also help with the fund raising efforts of the College, as indeed they did. Among the original members was Morris E. Jacobs, president of Bozel and Jacobs, the firm which had recommended formation of a lay board.

The Homecoming on November 3-4 was the most gala one to that date. In addition to the bonfire, a barn dance, a carnival, the prom, there was also the **first homecoming parade** from Rensselaer to the campus, with twelve colorful floats and seven marching bands. Though the festivities were the work of many they owed much to Joseph McGrath, who in addition to being the president of his class all four years was in this his senior year the President of the Student Council. He worked hard to make Homecoming the great success that it was.

- 1951 The April 11, 1951, issue of *Stuff* reported that: "Last week the Student Council of St. Joseph's was given control of the Student Activities Fund, to be used at the Council's discretion for the various student activities. Until now, the fund has been a conjunctive sum with the Student Welfare account." This was part of a broader attempt to give the students greater responsibility in their own affairs.

In April 1950 Father Alfred Zanolar had submitted his resignation as President, but was persuaded by the Board of Control to remain in office. But a year later his request was granted and his successor, Father Raphael Gross, assumed the office of president on July 1, 1951.

## **1951-1965: THIRTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER RAPHAEL GROSS, C.P.P.S.**

Father Gross received a Master's Degree in English from the University of Michigan in 1941 and began teaching at Saint Joseph's the same fall. He returned for further graduate studies to the University of Montreal from which he received his Ph.D. in English in 1951. Though widely read in literature generally, he was especially fond of Catholic literature and its promotion. In addition to teaching a course in Catholic Literature, he also published a book in 1946 entitled "A Century of the Catholic Essay," a collection of essays by Catholic writers. The book was well received. During his presidency the College enjoyed a phenomenal growth in buildings, student body, faculty, and financial support. After his retirement from the presidency Father Gross devoted his time and talents to the Fellows Program, a program of financial support which he himself founded in 1962. Along with his obvious accomplishments, Father Gross is also remembered on campus and among his former colleagues for his gentle and gentlemanly ways. He died January 30, 1985.

- 1951- The first matter facing the new President was the establishment of the  
1952 **Calumet Center Extension** of Saint Joseph's College. The program drawn up by Mr. James Bogan, Registrar, Mr. Joseph Druse, instructor in history, and Father Henry Martin, assistant professor of Education, was approved in a meeting of the Administrative Council July 6, 1951. Father Henry Martin was appointed the Director of the Calumet Extension, which began with evening classes in Bishop Noll High School in Hammond, Indiana, on September 13, 1951, with 128 students taking twelve courses taught by priests and laymen from the campus faculty and by four laymen from the Chicago and Calumet areas. The Center had a twofold purpose: 1) to be of service to the Calumet Region by offering courses to students seeking academic degrees, and to those interested in adult education, and 2) to be a feeder for enrollment at the main campus. In the course of time the Calumet Extension would grow into Calumet College, a four-year, fully accredited college, independent of Saint Joseph's.

The United States was in the Korean War and students were subject to the draft. Eligibility for exemption from the draft required a minimum score of 70 on the Selective Service Deferment Test and rank in the top two-thirds of one's college class. The final decision, however, was in the hands of the local draft board. The College was one of the centers that administered the

test, and at the end of each year the Registrar had to report to the Selective Service System how each student ranked the previous year.

In October a new Constitution was approved by the Faculty for the government of the student body. The main feature was that in addition to a student Council, there was established a **Student Union** (now called Student Association) embracing all members of the student body, and by whose Constitution all students were bound. The President, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer of the Union were elected annually by the entire student body. These officers together with the four class presidents and the chairman of the intra-club committee constituted the Student Council, which was the legislative body of the Student Union. The Student Union met once a month to listen to reports from the Student Council officers and to make suggestions. One innovation of the new Constitution was an assessment of five dollars a semester from each student for the Student Activities Fund which was administered by the Student Council. The Constitution devised in 1951, though modified at times, has remained essentially the basis of student government since that time.

In its meeting of October 27, 1951, the President's Administrative Council approved the request of **Mary Lou Worland** to take six hours of English in the second semester. It warned, however, that this departure from tradition was not to be considered "a precedent favoring any immediate blossoming out into coeducational status for the College." Phyllis Cat had taken a private course in the summers of 1942 and 1943, and other women in the summers since 1948, but this was the first time a woman was enrolled for regular classes during the school year.

1952 In April the Office of **Coordinator of Student Personnel Services** was created to go into effect in the fall as a replacement for the Office of Director of Student Welfare. The first Coordinator was Father Henry Martin, whose position as Director of the Calumet Extension was taken over by Father James Birkley, instructor in English. The Coordinator reported directly to the President and in his own field exercised authority on a level with that of the Dean of the College and the Treasurer. His direct responsibility was the administration of the guidance program.

During the course of the second semester and summer of 1952 a **3-2 engineering program** was worked out, whereby a student took three years of pre-engineering at Saint Joseph's and two years at an engineering school, after the first year of which he received a B.S. degree from Saint Joseph's. The College had been teaching so-called engineering courses almost from the beginning, but this was the first time in which a formal program was worked out with the engineering schools themselves. In the first year, arrangements were made with the University of Notre Dame, Purdue University, and Rose Polytechnic Institute (now Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology); other institutions would be added later.

The Glee Club as usual, under the direction of Father Lawrence Heiman, was very active on and off campus, appearing frequently in their white shirts and black ties and suits. During the semester, in addition to many appearances on campus, the Club sang in Rensselaer, Goodland, Kankakee, Chicago, Joliet, Wapakoneta and Celina in Ohio, and Ft. Wayne and Decatur in Indiana. The Glee Club was so popular that in order to limit the number of members to fifty, Father Heiman had to maintain a long waiting list.

On April 30 **Brother David Schneider** celebrated the 50th anniversary of his profession as a Brother. Born in Germany he was a student at Saint Joseph's for four years and later worked at the old Indian School as a printer. But a dozen generations of students remember him as the College barber. It is hard to imagine some one, over the long span of changing times and changing campus life, more loved and respected than Brother David. Always cheerful, always with a word of encouragement, always ready to do a favor, he made the barber shop, and little candy and tobacco store with it, a happy place. It would be a sad day when he was killed in an automobile accident April 28, 1958. But his memory still burns bright in the hearts of all who knew him.

- 1952- A new Dean of Men was appointed, **Father Daniel Schaefer**, who in the  
1953 next ten years was to make a profound impression on campus life, so much so that thirty years later alumni of that period would recall him with respect and gratitude — and anecdotes. He was sent to Saint Joseph's by the C.P.P.S. Provincial, who was also the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, to restore something of the traditional discipline that had declined after the influx of World War II veterans, especially in the area of drinking. He was a strong personality with strong convictions, a stern disciplinarian, but one who was consistent and impartial, who played no favorites because of wealth or influence, and was in the biblical sense no respecter of persons. He believed firmly that the College, and especially he himself, was *in loco parentis*, not just in the enforcement of rules but also in guidance and, if need be, compassion. A mark of his evenhandedness was that even those severely disciplined seldom complained of unfairness, and in later life often admitted that the treatment had been good for them. He later became the Provincial of the C.P.P.S. Kansas City Province, and in 1971 was elected the Moderator General of all C.P.P.S. Provinces with headquarters in Rome, and was reelected to the position for another six years in 1977.

Father Charles Banet became librarian, succeeding **Father Clarence Schuerman**, who had become librarian in 1941, but was forced to retire from the work because of ill health. Father Schuerman was the first one in charge to hold a degree in library science, having obtained it from the University of Michigan. It was he who planned and supervised the expansion of the library into the area of the old gymnasium, and modernized the facilities and services. Father Banet, who also received his library degree from the Univer-

sity of Michigan, continued Father Schuerman's work, and greatly expanded the library holdings and periodical subscriptions and services. He would hold the position until his appointment to the presidency in 1965.

The 240 acre **Fowler Farm** was sold, partly because of its distance from the campus, but mainly to raise necessary funds for the building of a new dairy barn and silo, the purchase of a new boiler, and the blacktopping of some campus roads. The holdings after the sale were 1447 acres.

1953 In June Father Charles Robbins became the Registrar and would hold the office until September 1, 1982, when he would be succeeded by Brother Edward Habrowski. In July Father John Lefko, who had resigned as pastor of of St. John the Baptist Church in Whiting, Indiana, was engaged by the College to head a fund-raising campaign. The Saint Joseph's College Foundation which he directed was a forerunner of the present-day Office of Development. During the summer, in anticipation of a great increase in enrollment, the north end of Science Hall underwent further renovation to enable it to accommodate about 90 students, and the frame house west of Sparling Road, which at the time was being used by the head dairyman, was turned into a student residence for 30 students known as the White House. The dairyman moved into a newly acquired prefabricated home next to the newly constructed dairy barn a mile west of the College. The old dairy barn east of the White House was torn down during the summer. And the swamp west of the Science Building was drained and the trees removed.

The President announced that some steps had been taken toward beginning the proposed fund drive. Bishop Bennett, he said, had heartily endorsed an initial diocesan drive in an effort to cover the cost of Bennett Hall, and the Bishop indicated that its maintenance also would during his own lifetime be a diocesan responsibility. It was further announced that Congressman Charles Halleck had been contacted concerning a government subsidized loan, that the federal Housing and Home Finance Agency had been visited in Chicago, and that a tentative application had been made for a **\$460,000 loan** to run for 40 years at 3½% interest. The loan was subsequently secured and the money was used to construct Bennett and Noll Halls in 1954.

1953- With the Korean War over and a good recruitment program in place, enrollment began to soar, and when school opened on September 16th, there were 607 students, in contrast to the previous year's 516, an increase of 15%. There were 345 freshmen, 118 sophomores, 96 juniors, 44 seniors and 4 special students. With the freshman class making up more than half the student body, there were not only problems of curricular and social adjustments, but the housing problem promised to be even more acute the next year.

On October 25 and November 1, 1953, 39 priests from the College preached in the parishes of the diocese of Lafayette on the goals and needs of Saint

Joseph's College. These two Sundays opened the campaign to raise funds for the new student residence hall that was to be built in honor of Bishop Bennett. Collections and pledge cards were taken up in each parish.

- 1954 In February it was announced that **Mr. Robert Jauron** had been hired as football coach, and would be on campus during the second semester to recruit and organize a team for the fall. During his five-year stay he was to prove himself an outstanding coach and would bring another era of football to the College comparable to that in the early 1940's under Mr. Joseph Dienhart. He drove his team hard, required and got unswerving loyalty from the players, was indefatigable in studying the strengths and weaknesses of opposing teams, and was articulate and outspoken in his belief that few things ought to take precedence in his attempt to build the College a firstclass football team.

Not long after Mr. Jauron's arrival, complaints were being made by the Academic Dean that he was interfering with the academic area of admissions, and was giving prospective students unwarranted expectations of special consideration and financial aid beyond the limitations of the College's athletic policy. The President took the occasion to state his own policy with respect to grants-in-aid in general and aid to athletes in particular. Grants-in-aid in general, he stated, should be considered service grants, and in giving them the Chairman of the Scholarship and Grant-in-Aid Committee should see to it "that each recipient make some contribution to the extra-curricular life and activity of the campus, by assisting to whatever degree and in whatever manner the Committee feels he is able — in the publications offices, in the various campus clubs, on the athletic field, in the glee club or band, etc." In the area of athletic grants the College was to observe the regulations of the North Central Association, which was at that time following the policy of the American Council on Education, namely: "Institutions should award and renew all scholarships and grants-in-aid on the fundamental basis of demonstrated academic ability and economic need. Promise of superior performance in extracurricular activities, including athletics, may be one of the factors considered in awarding scholarships and grants-in-aid. It should never be the sole factor or even the primary one." The interpretation and implementation of the policy would always be a struggle between coach and college.

In May the Dean of Men proposed abolition of the rule limiting freshman visits home to one weekend a month in favor of allowing them to go any time they had the written permission of their parents. The Administrative Council turned down the request on the basis that parents are far too easily moved for the student's own good and that the College has an obligation to indicate standards even to parents. The Council advised retention of the existing regulation for another year.

The summer school enrollment totaled 103, including 83 Sisters, six day students, five lay students living on campus, and nine geology students who

made a two-week field trip into the Southwest.

- 1954- The school year opened with 665 students, up from 607 the previous year.  
1955 About 130 applicants had to be turned away for lack of space, in addition to those discouraged from making application at all, since the two new halls were not yet finished. To accommodate those who were enrolled, rooms above the powerhouse and in the publications building were put into use. Seniors were obliged to live off campus in four houses, one purchased and three rented. During the summer the College had bought the Dr. Ira Washburn estate in Rensselaer for \$22,500, his large eleven-room home and seven acres of land, and it became known as **Washburn Hall**, housing 33 students. Two of the rented houses were in Rensselaer: the Hopkins house for 24 students and the Worrall house for 12 students. The other rented facility was the Kohloff house one mile south on Highway 231.

One of the new halls going up on campus was to be named Noll Hall in honor of Archbishop Noll of Ft. Wayne in recognition of the aid that he and the priests of his diocese had extended to the College in its fund raising activities. Since there was already a Noll Hall on campus, to accommodate the new one, the old Noll Hall was re-named Merlini Hall, in honor of the Venerable John Merlini, third Moderator General of the Society of the Precious Blood.

Father Gross, the President, was very active in the Associated Colleges of Indiana in soliciting funds from industries. The donor could designate an individual college or could give the contribution to the Association to be divided among the members. In the first three years that Saint Joseph's was in the Association, the amount received by the College went up from \$5000, to \$12,000, to \$20,000.

- 1955 Father Walter Pax, Dean of the College, was offered the post of Chairman of the Department of Education at De Paul University in Chicago. His request to accept the invitation was granted by the Administrative Council, and he was succeeded in the office of Dean by Father Edward Maziarz. **Father Maziarz**, associate professor of philosophy, had been very active on campus, having held the office of Director of Student Welfare, and having published a book and some articles in the area of philosophy and mathematics.

The Ritz movie theatre closed in Rensselaer, a victim of television, and the screen and projectors were installed in the College auditorium. **The College movie theatre** became a branch of the Palace Theatre in Rensselaer and was under the management of Mr. Paul Kelly, associate professor of Business Administration. This arrangement made it possible to show current movies on campus without cost to the College. The students were charged the same admission fee that they would have paid at the Ritz. Later the equipment would be purchased by the College and movies would be shown free of charge as a service of the Student Association.



Summer School was noted for three firsts. A new Summer Session enrollment record was set with 137 students, of whom 109 were nuns, representing 12 religious orders. Also Bennett Hall went into use for the first time when the Sisters moved in on July 16th. For the first time also the Certificate in Theology was awarded for the successful completion of the four-summer course in Theology. The certificate was presented to fifteen Sisters by Bishop Henry Grimmelman, alumnus and bishop of Evansville, in a Commencement Exercise on July 29.

- 1955- The two **new halls, Bennett and Noll**, each housing 98 students, were  
1956 in use for the opening of the new school year, enabling the College again to increase its enrollment, from last year's high of 665 to this year's 815, of which 423 were freshmen. The new halls also allowed for closing out of the Kohloff and Hopkins houses that had been rented the previous year. Again the freshman class outnumbered the rest of the student body.

In the October 17, 1955 meeting of the Administrative Council the President reported that Mother Aquinas, superior of the Precious Blood Sisters, had expressed the tentative desire to build a college east of Highway 231, to be run by the Sisters but with some tie-in with Saint Joseph's College. Since this went beyond the jurisdiction of the Council, it was agreed that Mother Aquinas should take it up directly with the Board of Trustees, but with the encouragement of the College Administration.

**The Ford Foundation** distributed a half billion dollars to colleges and hospitals, the largest single grant in the history of philanthropy. Of the total, 210 million went to all 615 regionally accredited colleges in the country privately supported. Saint Joseph's received \$270,000, at that time the largest grant in its history, far exceeding anything it had dreamed of. The money had to be used for ten years as an endowment to raise faculty salaries; after the ten-year period the use of the money would be unrestricted. Saint Joseph's invested a part of its money in faculty housing in the woods south of the College.

- 1956 Because applications were high, double what they had been the year before, admissions for the fall semester were closed on May 22nd, and a waiting list set up to fill in cancellations. As part of the effort to meet the situation, the Faculty in its March meeting, at the recommendation of the Director of Admissions, decided to raise admissions standards. Beginning in January 1957 applicants were chosen from those who, in addition to high school diploma and proper distribution of units, met two of the following three requirements: 1) average of C or 80 in total high school work, 2) rank in upper half of high school class, and 3) I.Q. of 108 or equivalent. In exceptional cases students who did not meet these requirements were permitted to prove their ability through passing an entrance examination. These regulations enabled the Director of Admissions to give a consistent explanation to students and to the parents of students whose applications were rejected.

On March 12, 1956 the President reported that Saint Joseph's application for another federally subsidized **loan of \$680,000** had been approved. Like the previous one it was for forty years, but at  $2\frac{3}{4}\%$  interest. The money was to be used to construct two new residence halls, to become known as Halas and Gallagher, each with a capacity of 120 students.

At its May 10th meeting the Board of Trustees approved the request of the Sisters of the Precious Blood to build a **College for Women** near Saint Joseph's College. To help prepare a faculty for the new college two C.P.P.S. Sisters were hired as members of Saint Joseph's Faculty to begin their teaching in September 1956. The two were Sister Anthonita Hess, Ph.D., History and Social Science, and Sister Theona Smith, M.A., English. At the time of hiring they were teaching at the University of Dayton. They were the first **women on the faculty** for the regular school year, though others had taught in summer school. There was also another woman on the faculty in 1956, Dr. Emily Chen, who taught Accounting. The following year another C.P.P.S. Sister would be added, namely Sister Petronella Schroeder, Ph.D., Biology.

1956- In the previous year the football team tied for the championship of the  
1957 Indiana Collegiate Conference. This year the team won it outright in a very resounding fashion, having outscored the other six teams by the combined score of 252-19, four of the games being shutouts. The team also played in the first **Aluminum Bowl** in Little Rock, Arkansas, against Montana State College for the national championship in the NAIA, the small college athletic association. The game was broadcast over 200 CBS television stations and 250 CBS radio stations, and was carried on the Armed Forces Radio Service overseas radio network. Some C.P.P.S. missionaries listened to the game in Chile, South America. The game was played December 22 on such a rain-soaked field that neither team was able to score, and the game was promptly dubbed the Mud Bowl. This was the only time a Saint Joseph's football team has played in a national championship game.

Plans were completed for construction of five new homes on a 25-acre plot of College land in the woods south of the campus. These homes, built with the use of Ford Foundation grant money, were the beginning of an eventual community made up of married faculty members and their families, with more homes to be built later. Once the community was established, it was governed by a group known as the **College Community Organization**, made up of community members. The group oversaw the development of the land and helped members with problems arising from community life. Though the project lasted twenty years, it never achieved its ideal and eventually the community broke up and the houses became available to any purchaser.

1957 **The SJC Radio Station** made its debut on campus March 7, 1957, as an experimental test station in Seifert Hall, the result of student efforts. It operated through the electrical circuits extending to all the buildings on campus, but

did not at this time broadcast over the air. A short time later the station moved out of Seifert Hall and into the publications building, where it remained until the summer of 1982. Regular, campus-wide broadcasting, however, did not begin till 1966.

About 1000 applications for the freshman class of 1957 were received, of whom only about 300 could be accepted for admission because of lack of space, since it was obvious that the two new residence halls would not be finished by September. Consequently admissions were closed in April and prospective students were told: "We are now receiving applications for September 1958. If you wish to be considered for admission in February or September 1958 you should make application as soon as possible."

On June 2, the College graduated 130 seniors, the largest graduation class to that date. It also conferred an honorary degree on **Mr. Bohumir Kryl**, noted Chicago musician and art collector. A long time friend and benefactor of the College, Mr. Kryl donated a number of valuable paintings to the College, a few of which can still be seen around campus, and one of which figured in a celebrated theft, and later recovery by the FBI.

A total of 198 students attended the Summer School, of whom 159 were Sisters, representing 14 different Orders. The three orders having the highest number were B.V.M. with 50, C.P.P.S. with 31, and S.S.N.D. with 19.

Father Raphael Gross began his third term as President on July 1, 1957. At that time he relinquished his duties as Superior of the C.P.P.S. Community to Father Leonard Kostka, who had been Vice-Superior as a delegate of the President since April 11, 1956, succeeding Father Charles Herber who had held the position for eight years. This separation of the office of **Religious Superior** from that of the President lifted from the presidency the restriction of Church law which limited the term of a local superior to two three-year terms, unless dispensation was obtained. From now on the term of presidency would not be measured in three-year segments. Father Kostka also succeeded Father Herber as College Chaplain.

1957- In October the College adopted a policy of **tuition waivers** for dependent  
1958 children of faculty and employees. The policy read in part: "To recognize service rendered and to promote Catholic higher education, the Administrative Council has adopted the policy of granting free tuition to the dependent children of faculty members and to those of employees who have been with the College for five successive years. For those who may wish rather to attend some other four-year, regionally accredited, Catholic college, Saint Joseph's will pay the tuition up to the amount of its own current charge." There will later be some modifications of the original policy.

1958 Formal **mid-term commencement** exercises were held for the first time February 2, 1958. For some years those finishing their studies at the end of the first semester had been honored with a banquet but there had been

no formal commencement. For these first mid-year exercises, at which 18 seniors graduated, the Commencement Speaker was Monsignor John P. Schall, alumnus and Vicar General of the Lafayette Diocese.

At the beginning of April the College post office ceased to be independent, but became a sub-station of the Rensselaer Post Office. The official designation was **Collegeville Station**, Rensselaer, Indiana 47978, though mail could be sent to either Collegeville or Rensselaer. The new and newly remodelled post office was dedicated on October 30, 1958. Among those present for the ceremony were Mr. Arthur Summerfield, Postmaster General of the United States, Congressman Charles Halleck, and about 150 postmasters from the State of Indiana. A new post office building was erected in the spring of 1988.

At the end of the school year, June 1958, the last of the Precious Blood Sisters who worked in the kitchen left the College. From the opening days of the College the Sisters had worked in the kitchen, and in the laundry till 1950. The blessings that came to Saint Joseph's through their hard work, their prayers and the inspiration of their sterling example can not be calculated. The College will hold them forever in its gratitude. The three Sisters who were teaching here continued for another year to live in the Convent, which later became a student residence and was re-named Aquinas Hall.

1958- **Halas and Gallagher Halls** were dedicated on September 7th, 1958, the  
1959 same day that 406 freshmen enrolled, and the halls were ready for the opening of the school year. Halas Hall was named after Mr. George Halas, owner and coach of the Chicago Bears; the Bears lived in the hall during their summer training, since it was the only one on campus with air conditioning, a gift from Mr. Halas himself. Gallagher Hall was named after Mr. Robert Gallagher, first chairman of the Board of Lay Trustees (Advisors).

The erection of the new halls, each of which housed 120 students, allowed students to move out of the basement of the Administration building and the north end of Science Hall. The areas vacated in the Administration Building became faculty offices, and areas freed in Science Hall were taken over by the Stage, the Music Department and classrooms. Later the basement and first floor of north Science Hall would become a part of the library.

In October the new **National Defense Student Loan** program was announced, and Saint Joseph's made application to enter the program. The money came from the federal government to which the College added one ninth, and lent the money to the students at 3% interest, repayable over a ten-year period beginning one year after the completion of schooling. The College assumed the obligation to collect the loans, and the money collected was available as a revolving fund for re-lending. As of June 30, 1989, the College has received \$1,361,250 from the government and has made loans to 2,573 students totalling \$4,071,532. Since July 1, 1987, the loans have been

re-named Perkins Loans in honor of the late Carl D. Perkins, former chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee.

- 1959 The May 28, 1959, edition of *Stuff* carried an article about **Dr. Cecil Johnson**, stating that he "has been binding the wounds and healing the ills of St. Joseph's students for forty years now. . . . A 40th anniversary banquet will be given in the doctor's honor by the administration of the school early next fall." Unfortunately the banquet, at which the Surgeon General of the United States was to be present, was never held, since Dr. Johnson was killed in an automobile accident on August 2nd. But the College would not soon forget his long and faithful service.

- 1959- For the first time enrollment topped the thousand mark, reaching 1089,  
1960 of which 1065 were men and 23 were women. As to miscellaneous information there were 38 married students, 36 non-Catholics, six blacks and four American Indians. **Aquinas Hall** was used for the first time as a student residence, the three C.P.P.S. Sisters on the faculty having moved into Rensselaer. The Sisters had joined the faculty with a view of preparing themselves for the establishment of a women's college nearby, but that eventually now seemed quite dim, since the Precious Blood Sisters did not at that time have the money to build and Archbishop Karl Alter of Cincinnati, in whose diocese their headquarters were located, was opposed to the project. This year, however, Saint Joseph's women students began to participate more fully in campus activities, such as leading cheers and attending club meetings.

- 1960 In January it was announced that the Music Department would initiate the **St. Joseph's Institute of Liturgical Music** to begin in the summer session June 20. The Institute, under the direction of Father Lawrence Heiman, who had recently returned from two years of study in Rome, was modeled largely after the *Corso Ordinario* of Gregorian Chant of the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome. Over the years the program has become the best known of its kind in the country, drawing students from all over the United States and some foreign countries. In addition to the Bachelor's Degree it is the only program for which the College grants also a Master's Degree.

In April 1960 another man, Mr. Michael Scott, was hired to assist Father Richard Baird in the recruitment of students. He was employed to work specifically in the Chicago area from which a large number of our students were coming. In addition to being Admissions Counselor, Fr. Baird had been since 1958 also Athletic Director.

It was announced on May 5th, 1960 that Saint Joseph's College Calumet Extension had become SJC Calumet Center, a four-year bachelor degree-granting institution, and would begin its four-year program in the fall. As a division of Saint Joseph's College, it was fully accredited by the North

Central Association and was also certified by the Indiana Department of Public Instruction for the training of elementary and secondary teachers. To carry out its new program adequately it moved over the summer from Noll High School to a remodeled furniture store in East Chicago, Indiana. The new location had sufficient space to handle 1000 full-time students in eleven classrooms, as well as space for office facilities, library, reading room, student lounge and art studio. Though the Calumet Center was a four-year institution, it remained a branch of Saint Joseph's College until December, 1973. The director again was Father Henry Martin, who had been its first director when it began in 1951.

- 1960- When school opened on September 15th, the College again had a record  
1961 enrollment of 1110, an increase of 21 over the previous year. For lack of space many students had to be turned aside. Out of 1133 new applicants only 39% were accepted and enrolled. In addition to the usual campus and day students, for the first time there were also students, 23 in all, living in **approved private homes** in and around Rensselaer. This number would grow greatly in coming years until the erection of Justin Hall. Students were also living in the old Eigelsbach home one mile west of the College, known as the **Scharf House**, since Mr. Richard Scharf and family had been the most recent residents.

For several years there had been discussion about the inadequacy of Raleigh Hall, familiarly known as the Rec Hall, because of the ever growing student body. It was decided, therefore, to seek a loan from the Housing and Home Finance Agency for the erection of a new student center. In October word came from Congressman Halleck that \$1,500,000 had been set aside for the College. The decision was made to accept the loan and to name the proposed Student Center after Congressman Halleck. After further discussion and negotiation it was finally arranged to procure **a loan of \$1,700,000** for forty years at 3½ % interest the money to be used for the construction of Halleck Center and Schwietermann Hall. This would bring the total of government subsidized loans at this time to \$2,840,000.

- 1961 In March the College agreed to donate to Rensselaer 65 acres of land along the Iroquois river for construction of a lagoon type of **sewage disposal system**. In return the College would have the use of the system along with Rensselaer free of charge. Since one third of the land was river bottom and not in cultivation and the other two thirds were poor land, the arrangement was financially to the advantage of the College. Should the land cease to be used for the stated purpose, the contract called for its return to Saint Joseph's College. The system is still in use, but it was renovated in 1988 and the land sold to the city.

The Sunday of April 17 saw a **snow storm** that created drifts eight feet high on Highway 231 east of the College. But the weekend was memorable

not so much for the fact that a storm of that intensity should come so late in the year, but that it stranded 250 co-eds on an all-male campus for two days. Students from Saint Francis College in Fort Wayne, Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame, and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in Terre Haute, here to participate in the Indiana Catholic College Choral Festival, could not get away when the police late Sunday afternoon announced that all roads around Rensselaer were closed and impassable. Halas and Gallagher halls were emptied for the women, and the men found sleeping space wherever they could — in rooms of students gone for the weekend, in the fieldhouse, the laundry, the Rec Hall, shower rooms, etc. The College had also to find accommodations for many travelers stranded by the storm. But all took it in good humor, and much impromptu entertainment was devised. By 9:00 o'clock on Tuesday morning the last of the snow-bound people were gone, but memories would long remain of a most unlikely weekend.

- 1961- The three C.P.P.S. Sisters teaching at the College during the previous year  
 1962 did not return for the fall. The notion of building a women's college next to Saint Joseph's was now clearly dead. The College would begin to think more definitely about itself becoming a residential co-educational institution.

In its November 10, 1961, meeting the Administrative Council approved engaging the services of the Fund Fulfillment Corporation, a fund raising company run by Walter Darling of Chicago, a member of the Board of Lay Trustees. The arrangement was to have Mr. Frank Havey, Corporation Vice President, live on campus to supervise the preparation of a projected fund drive. His stay was to be about six months at a salary of \$11,725 in addition to free room and board. The drive was to be a three-year program culminating in the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the College in 1964. As it turned out the advisor and coordinator from Fund Fulfillment Corporation was Mr. Joseph Staples.

- 1962 **The fund drive** was kicked off on April 4th with meetings of the Chicago area Alumni chairmen. Except for the collection taken up in the parishes of the Lafayette Diocese in 1953, which was meant to be preliminary to a wider campaign, this was the first fund drive organized by the College. As the campaign brochure stated: "Many people and groups of people will be asked, for the first time, to provide major financial underwriting to the great mission of Saint Joseph's College — to provide Christian higher education of quality to more and more young Americans." The goal was to raise \$600,000 to complete and furnish the two new buildings being erected with government loans. Anything raised in addition was to go for expansion of the library, classrooms, science facilities, endowment for instruction, etc.

In conjunction with the Fund Drive Father Gross instituted the **Fellows Program**, a program of financial support for the College. In British tradition a fellow is a member of an incorporated college, the word being derived

from the old English "felawe", meaning a partner, one who lays down money. To be a fellow of Saint Joseph's College meant to be a partner in its mission of Christian education. For such a privilege the Fellow had to donate a minimum of \$1000 to the College. By May 1, 1962 the fellows had grown to 73. The program has been singularly successful, raising several million dollars. Father Gross devoted himself full-time to the program after his retirement from the presidency in 1965.

Over the summer, plans were worked out by which **Saint Mary's Capuchin Seminary** of Crown Point, Indiana (near Schererville), became affiliated with Saint Joseph's. The seminary retained its own faculty and curriculum, but brought them into conformity with the standards required by the College. Students who completed the approved curriculum received their bachelor's degree from Saint Joseph's. The seminary has ceased to exist, but the academic records are held and transcripts of credit are issued by the College.

1962- Classes began on Thursday, September 13th, 1962, but the day is better  
1963 known as the occasion for the laying of the cornerstone for **Halleck Student Center**. It was perhaps the biggest celebration ever held on campus. Present for the afternoon ceremony was former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who wielded the trowel and delivered the principal speech. In addition to his friend and colleague, Congressman Charles Halleck, in whose honor the building was dedicated, there were about 3000 other guests. At this time Halleck Center was well along in construction and would be ready for partial use late in the second semester. In the late afternoon and evening there was a Republican Party rally on the north campus, attended by nearly 25,000 people, the largest crowd ever assembled on the campus. After listening to the political oratory the people were fed from vast barbecue pits and food counters erected on the practice football field.

The opening of school again saw a record enrollment of 1176 with 483 freshmen, also a record to that date. To accommodate the large number, it was necessary to house about 50 students in private homes in Rensselaer. With the growing enrollment came growing duties of the president, especially in the area of fund raising. To ease the burden Father Gross, who had to be off campus frequently, instituted a new office, that of **Assistant to the President**. The first one to hold the new office was Father Donald Ballmann, who had a doctorate in Geology and taught in that field and would also later become Dean of the College.

1963 In February several curriculum changes were made that directly affected the students. The requirement of a minor sequence for graduation was dropped. A major in music was also approved. The faculty personnel necessary for a major became possible with the arrival of Dr. and Mrs. John Egan for the fall of the school year 1962-63.

April 27, 1963, witnessed the first "**Little 500**" race on campus, and the first "**Little 500 Weekend**", in imitation of similar races run at other col-



leges. The cars were all people-powered. Each car had two alternating drivers and ten pushers. The track was around Science Hall and down the sidewalk that runs through the grove toward Raleigh Hall. The race lasted four hours, and was a forerunner of the race with engine-powered cars of today's Little 500.

On May 1st the new **Schwietermann Hall**, home of the C.P.P.S. Community, was blessed by the Apostolic Delegate, the Most Reverend Egidio Vagnozzi. The priests and brothers moved into the new house during the summer, beginning July 18th. The first to move in was the second oldest man on the place, Father Albin Scheidler, who had joined the faculty in 1910 and after an absence of twenty-two years had returned to retire in 1960. When the priests and brothers moved out of the second and third floors of the Administration Building, these areas were then available for classrooms and faculty offices.

May 1st also ushered in the beginning of the **Diamond Jubilee Celebration**, which would end in 1964. It should be noted that the 25th anniversary in 1916 and the 50th in 1941 were reckoned from the opening of the College in 1891 rather than the founding of the College in 1889, as was the case for the 75th. The Fund Drive would also terminate with the Jubilee Year.

Over the summer the **Office of Admissions** was separated from that of the Registrar. The first Director of the Office of Admissions as a separate office was Father William Shields, who the previous two years had been Admissions Counselor in charge of recruitment. Father Robbins, the Registrar, retained the office of Director of Financial Aid which he had taken over in 1959. Father Donald Ballman also became Dean of the College, succeeding Father Edward Maziarz, who was on a sabbatical leave. Father Leonard Kostka became the Assistant to the President.

1963- With the opening of the school year, the dining room in the Halleck Student Center was in use for juniors and seniors. The freshmen and sophomores continued to use the chapel cafeteria. It would be some years yet before it became possible to accommodate all the students in the new dining room.

1964

The Sisters, the Poor Handmaids, from Donaldson, Indiana, visited the campus with a view of assessing the feasibility of establishing here at Saint Joseph's College a school for women, which would be basically a juniorate for their own nursing candidates, but with added facilities for quite an initial number of general college students. The project was approved by the Council, but nothing ever came of the idea.

A further step towards full independence of Saint Joseph's College Calumet Center (known at that time as Calumet Campus) was taken in October when the Director was given the title of Acting President of Saint Joseph's College Calumet Campus. Also the Calumet Campus was given permission to hold its own Commencement Exercises. Heretofore those graduating received their diplomas in the main campus exercises.

1964 A special **Diamond Jubilee concert** was staged on April 12th by the music departments of Saint Joseph's College and Alverno College, a college for women, from Milwaukee. The highlight of the concert was the presentation of the *Te Deum*, a musical number which had been commissioned by the College for the celebration. It was written by the nationally acclaimed composer, C. Alexander Peloquin, who himself conducted the 150 combined voice choir, with Dr. and Mrs. Egan at the pianos. The concert also premiered "Holy, Holy, Holy", a work composed by Ralph Verdi, a seminarian, who later became a member of the Saint Joseph's faculty and a nationally known composer. The total program was under the direction of Father Lawrence Heiman, chairman of the music department. Two weeks later the Saint Joseph's College symphonic band also premiered the work, "Diamond Jubilee Overture", composed by Adam P. Lesinsky, College band director.

1964- Classes began on September 17, but a week later were suspended for four  
1965 days because of a breakdown in the water supply. Over the eighteen years that iron water had been coming in from the wells in the gravel vein west of the college the pipes had become clogged with rust, and needed cleaning. Eventually a treatment plant would be installed to remove the iron before it created the trouble.

Among the 1130 students enrolled were **eight women** from outside the neighborhood who had secured rooms in private homes in Rensselaer. This arrangement was another step in the direction towards residential co-education. And in its meeting of December 4th, 1964, the President's Administrative Council accepted the recommendation of the Development Committee that Saint Joseph's College accept **resident women** on a co-educational rather than a co-institutional basis. This recommendation was also later accepted by the Board of Trustees. It was also decided by the Council that the College for the time being would continue to accept and place women in homes in Rensselaer until such time as there would be a sufficient number to open up a hall on campus, and also so that when a hall was opened up it would not be exclusively freshmen.

Saint Joseph's held its first **Mock Senate Session** on December 3, 1964, sponsored by the History Club. Topics for discussion were bills proposing Federal Aid to Education and investigation of extremist organizations. Some one took the part of the Vice President to preside over the meetings, some one else the majority leader; and there was a parliamentarian, with senators on both sides of the aisle and both sides of the questions. The next mock senate, sponsored by the Political Science Club, debated participation in the Vietnam War and nearly ended in a riot. Mock senate meetings, mock U.N., mock political conventions and mock elections were devices used during these years as means of both education and entertainment. Identification with real situations and the need to be informed on issues made the programs interesting and informative for participants and spectators alike.

- 1965 Father Raphael Gross's request to be relieved of the presidency was granted by the Board of Trustees, and a new president, Father Charles Banet, was appointed, and took office on June 7th. In recognition of Father Gross's fourteen years in office and of his great work in the growth and development of the College, a most elegant faculty banquet was held for him on June 1st, organized by Fathers Charles Banet, president-elect, and David Van Horn, Chairman of the Art Department. Father John Byrne, C.PP.S., Provincial and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, took the occasion to extend his warm appreciation for the work that Father Gross had done, observing that while striving for excellence, he "carefully avoided extreme selectivity to the exclusion of the worthy." At the annual Fellows Dinner on June 12th, the thanks and best wishes of the Associated Colleges of Indiana, in whose behalf Father Gross had put in much hard work, were expressed by the Reverend O.P. Kretzmann, President of Valparaiso University. And a gala dinner of appreciation was held by the Alumni Association in the President's Room of McCormick Place, Chicago. John McCann, president of the Association, was the toast-master, and Mr. David Condon of the *Chicago Tribune* was the principal speaker. The May 27th edition of *Stuff* also paid him high tribute for his many years in office and many accomplishments. In addition to the expansion of the physical plant and financial support, from 1951 to 1965 the student body grew from 530 to 1281 and the teaching faculty from 51 (37 religious, 14 lay) to 77 (37 religious, 40 lay). Six new majors were added: History (replacing Social Science), Music, Political Science, Sociology, Speech, and Theology. It was indeed a time of growth.

### **1965: FOURTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE FATHER CHARLES BANET, C.PP.S.**

Father Banet received a master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan in 1951 and spent another year there in classical studies. In the fall of 1952 he became head librarian, a position he held for the next thirteen years. In the fall of 1964 he became Assistant to the President, and assumed the presidency itself the following summer. As President he continued and expanded the work of his predecessor. One of his first projects was to seek legal counsel in the clarification of the principles of governance of the College corporation, one result of which was the placement of laymen, eventually a majority, on the Board of Trustees. Using his talent for research and organization he also set about clarifying the relations between Saint Joseph's College and the Calumet Center, which resulted in 1973 in the Center becoming a separate institution. He implemented the trend towards residential coeducation, which resulted in the erection of Justin Hall, a dormitory

for women. He ordered the study of the general education program which led to the nationally acclaimed Core Program. Partly as a result of his own notion of an open and participatory form of government, and partly because of a national trend towards greater student participation in college government following student unrest in the Vietnam War era, encouragement was given to wider student representation on college committees and boards, including the Board of Trustees. Alongside Father Gross's continuation of the Fellows Program, there were stepped up efforts in seeking financial support from alumni, corporations, foundations, and the general public. In addition to financial problems, sometimes severe, he has had also to contend with the steady falling enrollment since the peak of 1454 in 1969. The problem of enrollment continues, but a manifestation of an optimistic outlook for the future was the launching in 1981 of the seven million dollar "Renewal: SJC into Tomorrow" capital gifts campaign, the largest ever undertaken by the College. An even more ambitious campaign of twenty million will be undertaken for the centennial celebration in 1991.

Over the summer of 1965 changes were made in the chapel that reflected the liturgical reforms of Vatican Council II. All the altars were removed from the sanctuary including the high altar. The altars in the nave and the communion rail had been previously removed. Mass had been said facing the people already from the beginning of the previous year, but now a new altar was installed to occupy the middle of the sanctuary alone. There remained the task of repainting and redecorating the entire chapel, especially the disfigurements left in the sanctuary by the removal of the altars. But this, with some further alterations, would wait another decade till sufficient funds were available.

At a convocation on August 24th in East Chicago, Father Banet announced the approval of plans for an independent status of the Calumet Campus not later than 1970. Also that the routine investigation by the North Central Association in 1967 would treat the Calumet Campus as a separate unit of Saint Joseph's College, and accreditation would be continued or denied on its own merits. The North Central Association had informed the College in 1963 that it was their policy to accredit multiple campuses independently of each other regardless of legal relationship. The Calumet Campus did get separate accreditation in March of 1968, but full separation would not come till 1973.

- 1965- Saint Joseph's was experiencing the same flood of applications that other  
1966 colleges over the country were encountering. Not only were there more high school graduates, but the Vietnam War was on and one way to escape the draft was to enroll in college. Fall enrollment at Saint Joseph's reached a record of 1281, and because of the large enrollment about 75 students were living in private homes in Rensselaer. The freshman class of 534 was the largest the College would ever have (as of 1990). Obviously further dor-

mitory space was needed. In its October meeting the Administrative Council approved the application for an \$800,000 federal loan for the construction of a men's dormitory for 250 students. A loan for a student residence could be obtained only if space was needed to meet an expected increase. The College did show such need and received an \$840,000 loan for forty years at 3% interest for the construction of a dormitory with a capacity of 248 students. The result was the erection of Justin Hall in 1968, half of which was originally used for men.

**The painting**, "The Virgin and Child with St. Nicholas of Bari and a Donor," reputedly by the Renaissance Italian artist Giovanni Bellini, had been donated to the College in 1961 by Bohumir Kryl and was kept in a locked display case in the library. During the night of October 31 it was stolen, the theft being discovered in the morning by Father Banet, who, though President, was still spending some time winding things up in the library. Since the painting had an announced value of \$350,000, and with that value would at the time have been the second largest art theft in history, its theft was a big news story reported all over the world. The painting was recovered fourteen months later by the FBI and is now stored in a safer place. Its value was also later re-assessed as something more in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

In November, 1965, a small portion of land near Drexel Hall was leased to Mr. Ted Filson for the erection of a tower to bring cable television to the campus and to the city of Rensselaer. The **cable system** was to prove a great boon to all recipients in increased quality of pictures and number of channels.

In November information became available on **The Higher Education Act of 1965**, signed into law the previous month by President Johnson as part of his Great Society legislation. It was a landmark bill in the area of student financial aid. The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 had set up the Work-Study program for low income students, with the federal government paying 80% of a student's wages under the program and the college the other 20%. This aid was now extended to all needy students and not just those from low-income families. The 1965 Act also created the Federally Insured Student Loan program, with the money coming from the banks, to supplement the National Defense Student Loan program through which money came from the government to be administered by the college. The Act furthermore set up the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program. All these programs were to change the face of student financial aid and, along with the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant program (now known as the Pell Grant Program) that came along a few years later, made higher education, especially in private schools, available to millions who would otherwise have had no access to it. But the programs also created a dependency of colleges on federal funds that in later years would have a profound effect on the budget of almost every college in the country.

1966 The radio station WSJC (next semester it would become WOWI after it was learned that a station in the south was called WSJC) began regular broadcasting in the second semester, operating from 5:30 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. with a full program of music, news, interviews and other items of general interest. The station was actually begun in 1957 on an experimental basis by several students, but this year represents its first extended operation with full support from the Student Council and the Administration. There was still no broadcasting over the air, but signals went to halls on campus through the electrical wiring system. The station was located in rooms on the second floor south of the old post office.

The College Glee Club, under the direction of Dr. John Egan, was active as usual on and off campus. On March 27 at the Indiana Catholic Collegiate Choral Festival held at Saint Joseph's the combined choruses of Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods College, Marian College, St. Francis College (Fort Wayne), St. Benedict College (Ferdinand, Indiana), Xavier University (Cincinnati) and Saint Joseph's College premiered "**An American Requiem**", an ambitious piece written by Dr. Egan as a tribute to the late President John F. Kennedy. It was not a Mass, but a compilation of sacred texts appropriate to the spirit of a Requiem, including chapter three of the *Book of Ecclesiastes*, President Kennedy's favorite passage from the Bible.

In May, 1966, the faculty approved a new general education **Honors Program** for freshmen and sophomores, each semester being worth eight credit hours. The Catalog (1967-68) described it thus: "This interdisciplinary program is offered to those freshmen who have scored high on SAT and have superior high school grades and class rank. Usually the upper ten percent of each incoming freshman class is invited to apply. From these applicants a class of approximately twenty-five honors students is selected . . . The program treats in depth certain significant periods of Western Culture by emphasizing original sources. The following is the current program: Honors I, The Golden Age of Greece; Honors II, The High Middle Ages; Honors III, The Enlightenment; Honors IV, The Twentieth Century. History, art, literature, and philosophy are the primary areas discussed by the class and the team of honors professors . . . Those enrolled are relieved of all lower-level history, English, social science, theology and philosophy course requirements." The program lasted for three years and gave way to the Core Program, which it resembled in some ways, though Core would be required of all students and for all eight semesters.

A revised and amended version of the Articles of Incorporation of Saint Joseph's College was adopted by the Board of Trustees (Control) in its meeting of June 7, 1966. One of the amendments was to allow some members of the Board to be other than members of the Society of the Precious Blood. This was in line with the trend throughout the country as described by Jencks and Riesman (*The Academic Revolution*, New York, 1968): "Unlike their Protestant counterparts, relatively few Catholic colleges have had laymen

on their boards of control, even fewer have had lay presidents and none had vested title to the college and its property in a lay board until 1967. Catholic laymen have served on advisory boards, but these have had no real power . . . During 1966 and 1967, however, a rapid movement developed toward lay or mixed lay-clerical control." (p. 346)

Saint Joseph's had organized a board of lay advisors in 1950, called Board of Lay Trustees (the governing board was called Board of Control). It was now prepared to go a step further. The amended Articles of Incorporation allowed for **lay membership on the Board of Control** while requiring that the majority of the Board continue to be from the C.P.P.S. Accordingly in a meeting on June 16, 1966, five laymen were elected and added to the Board, raising the membership to twelve. The following seven were C.P.P.S.: John Byrne, Charles Bricher, Charles Banet, Norbert Sweeterman, Robert Siebeneck, Henry Martin, and Raphael Gross. The five laymen were: Arthur Hellyer, Justin Oppenheim, John Schmidt, Irving Lewin, and Frank Shaver. John Bryne was elected chairman. A further expansion of Board membership would take place later. Meanwhile the Board of Lay Trustees continued in existence.

1966- School opened with 1359 students, another record. Of this number 174  
1967 were living in Rensselaer, a clear indication of the need for the proposed new dormitory.

At the beginning of the school year the President, Father Banet, invited the co-editors of *Stuff* and the elected members of the Student Council to attend the faculty meetings. The student council president had already in 1965 been invited to attend the meetings of the President's Administrative Council. Students were present as well at meetings of the Academic Senate (now Cabinet). "This increase in open and free discourse between faculty and students in the top level of administration must be noted as one of the greatest forward steps of Father Banet's administration." (editorial in *Stuff*, Oct. 27, 1966, p. 2)

There were two developments in the area of the curriculum. Comprehensive examinations were dropped as part of graduation requirements, since the amount of work put into them by faculty and students did not seem commensurate with the results. And a major in Psychology was approved by the faculty to become effective in the fall of 1967.

The **computer age came** to Saint Joseph's in the fall of 1966 with the installation of the IBM 1130 system, designed for both instructional and administrative purposes. The first office to use the facilities was the Registrar's Office which used punched cards for Semester I registration and for the distribution and recording of grades at the end of the semester. Mr. Kenneth Zawodny, Saint Joseph's alumnus on leave from Penta Technical College in Ohio, was in charge of the installation of the nine machines that constituted the system, and was the first director of the computer center, located in the

old carpenter shop, and also the first computer instructor. Saint Joseph's facility was soon to become a model employment of the IBM 1130 and many colleges came to study the computer setup.

During the fall the **auditorium** underwent a major **renovation** — repainting, new drapes and stage curtain, floor carpeting. The most extensive renovation, however, was replacement of the wooden seats by the present upholstered and cushioned seats equipped with arms for writing. A legacy of \$40,000 left to the College from the estate of Mr. Frank Nolan of Lowell, Indiana, at first designated for chapel renovation, was used to help defray auditorium expenses. During the summer a new baroque Tellers pipe organ had also been installed in the auditorium at a cost of \$17,800. The money was raised by Father Lawrence Heiman and the Summer School of Liturgical Music, since the organ was to be used primarily for musical instruction.

1967 In February the editors of *Stuff* sent a letter to Father Banet pointing out "the failing sense of community, especially among seniors, the discontent over successive tuition raises and dissatisfaction of the student body with the status of dorms and other campus facilities." In response to this letter, and as a part of his open system of government, Father Banet invited the seniors to the **First Annual Shareholders Meeting**, which "may very well be the first of its type ever held on any campus." Students could ask any questions about finances or any other subjects and they would be given an answer at the meeting or later in writing. The meeting came off on March 9th, attended by the top administrative officers of the College, as well as members of the Board of Trustees including the Chairman, and was hailed as a tremendous success. It was followed later by similar meetings with underclassmen.

There was a record enrollment of 350 students in the Summer Session of 1967. Among them for the first time were those in the **Summer Honors Program**. The course, conducted by the Departments of Political Science, Psychology and English on the subject of aggression, was open to superior high school students who would be seniors the following year. It was problem centered and team taught, with the aim of bringing the teacher and students in close contact, of giving the students a better opportunity to express themselves and of integrating wide fields of knowledge more effectively than was possible in a traditional classroom procedure. It was experimental, in order to determine the efficacy of such a program and, if the results were favorable, to decide whether to extend the procedure to all students. This part of the program was to bear some fruit in the Core Program soon to be adopted. Another objective was to attract to the regular school year students of high scholastic caliber. Though the program continued for a number of years, this latter objective was never attained since few of the summer students returned a year later for the regular school year. And since the program was tuition free without resulting in much later enrollment, and since the faculty had to be paid, it was economically too burdensome and was dropped after eight years.



The Education Department of the College was **accredited** by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) for both elementary and secondary programs. North Central accreditation for the total college was also extended for another five years. This accreditation, however, did not extend to the Calumet Campus because of its shaky financial status and uncertainty of its enrollment potential. This was a shattering blow for the Calumet Campus, and there was talk of converting it to a junior college or even of closing it altogether. But the North Central later agreed to reconsider the matter and the outcome was that Calumet received separate accreditation in 1968.

Saint Joseph's received a federal grant as a Developing Institution, and used a portion of the grant to study the **general education program** of the College. It was announced in July that Dr. Richard Grabau of Purdue University had been engaged to direct the committee that would conduct the study. The eventual outcome of the committee's work would be the Core Program.

After a survey of alumni, faculty and students which was favorable toward residential co-education, the President's Council voted on July 6, 1967, to **admit women as residents** on campus in the fall of 1968. The decision was that until there were sufficient women to occupy the entire hall, one wing of the new hall, later to be named in honor of Justin Oppenheim, benefactor and Trustee of the College, would be set aside for women and the other wing for men, with the view to the entire hall eventually becoming a women's dormitory.

In August a new office of **Director of Student Affairs**, a successor to the Office of Coordinator of Student Personnel Services, which had been instituted in 1952 but dropped in 1961, was established. The new office was responsible for the non-academic guidance and counseling, non-academic and non-athletic financial aids for students, discipline, social activities, health, religious life, housing, and residence hall maintenance. Working under the Director of Student Affairs were the Director of Guidance and Counseling, the Dean of Students, the Chaplain, the Director of Halleck Center, the moderator of the Student Council, and the moderators of the various social clubs on campus. The first one to hold the new office was Dr. John Egan.

- 1967- Since the new dormitory, Justin Hall, was not ready for the first semester,  
 1968 22 of the 1423 students lived in the old Jasper County Hospital building, a new hospital having gone up east of Rensselaer. There were also 32 junior and senior seminarians living in Schwietermann Hall. After many years of discussion, and a few intermediate decisions, it was finally determined that C.P.P.S. seminarians would spend four years at Saint Joseph's and take their Bachelor's Degree from here. At this time the students were spending two years here (in Xavier Hall), then one year away for their novitiate, and back again for the last two years (in Schwietermann Hall). From now on they would spend four continuous years here.

With the school year 1967-68 the College adopted a new calendar, the **4-1-4 plan**. In addition to ending the first semester before Christmas, thus eliminating the "lame duck session", it allowed for an inter-term of three weeks between semesters in which students could earn three hours of credit. The most productive element of the arrangement was that it allowed faculty-directed student groups to go abroad — to England, Europe, Russia, Mexico — on travel-study tours from which, if they desired, students could gain three credits. The incentive to travel was there for those who could afford it, since the time was otherwise too short for worthwhile employment. This incentive would be removed when later the inter-term was replaced by the present spring session.

In December the student body adopted a revision of the Student Government constitution. The name was changed from Student Union to Student Association so as not to confuse it with Halleck Student Union. A **senate form of government** was adopted, replacing the hall representatives who had no power to vote on measures, the power having rested with the four student council officers, the four class officers and the interclub chairman. In the new set-up each housing unit of 50 students or major fraction could elect one senator with voting rights. Class presidents were no longer a part of student government, since classes had grown too large to be represented by one person.

At the end of the first semester December 23, 1967, Dr. Louis Gatto succeeded Father Donald Ballmann as Dean of the College, the first layman to hold the position. Dr. Gatto had been a member of the faculty for the past ten years. He spent the past year at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin, in an American Council on Education Internship, a Ford Foundation sponsored program for interesting college professors in administration. He was one of 38 professors, nominated by their college presidents, participating throughout the country in this internship project. Dr. Gatto worked out of the academic dean's office at Lawrence as assistant to the president. During the first semester of the current year he worked with Father Ballmann as Associate Dean.

1968 Dr. Gatto announced to the faculty that the evaluation and analysis of the curriculum was about to enter its **third phase**. The first phase had been the six "President's Seminars", held during the fall, in which each department had to justify the existence of a Catholic college and the necessity of its particular field. The second phase, in the last part of the first semester, consisted of studying the curricula of other colleges, the work being done by a committee of thirteen instructors under the supervision of Dr. Richard Grabau of Purdue University, with the aid of a federal grant. The third phase now beginning would consist of five weekends spread over the second semester, in which the committee would discuss and research intensively, together with consultation of faculty and students, the problems of revision

and adoption of a new General Education program. The fourth phase would be a three-week session in June spent in developing a plan to be presented for adoption by the faculty the following fall. The outcome would be the Core Program.

The Father Edwin G. **Kaiser Faculty Scholar Award** was initiated in the Halleck Center dining room during the annual Aquinas Convocation, March 7, 1968. The first recipient of the award was fittingly Father Kaiser himself, who also gave the main address at the convocation, in which newly promoted faculty members and honor students were feted. The award was instituted to memorialize Father Kaiser, who was a voluminous writer, having written many books and articles, and having also translated many, in Church History, theology and Catholic devotion. He came to Saint Joseph's in 1944, having taught at Saint Charles Seminary after receiving his doctorate in theology from Saint John Lateran in Rome in 1923.

On June 7, 1968 at a meeting of the Board of Control (members of the Corporation), another step was taken in the development of the Board of Trustees. According to the revised By-Laws adopted the previous year, the members were to select directors of the Corporation. And thus we read in the minutes of the meeting of June 7, 1968: "The Chairman stated that the By-Laws of the Corporation, Section 1, Article IV, require this annual meeting of the members to be held during the second week of June in each year for the purpose of selecting directors and for the transaction of any other business as may come before the meeting. He stated further that in accordance with the provisions of the By-laws, Section 2, Article V, the number of directors shall be fixed by the Board of Directors and that the Board of Directors has fixed the number of directors at thirteen." The Board of Directors thus selected, all of whom were corporate members and members of the Board of Control, now passed the following resolution: "That the Board of Directors authorize the Board of Trustees of Rensselaer and East Chicago to act in matters of management and policy, with provision that the action of each does not impinge on the operation of the other." And thus came to an end the Board of Lay Trustees (Advisors), since **all Trustees now had governing power** delegated to them by the Board of Directors in the over-all management and policy-making decisions of the College. The term Board of Control also went out of use at this time. The Trustees numbered 37, of whom 13 also constituted the Board of Directors.

On college campuses throughout the country there was much **student unrest**, some of it abetted by faculty members, closely related to opposition to the Vietnam War. In some cases it led to violence, interruption of academic life, and even to occupation of campus offices and buildings by student groups. Various organizations were formulating policies to cope with the problem. Among these policy statements was one by the American College Personnel Association. In its June meeting the Board of Trustees of Saint Joseph's Col-

lege drew up its own "**Policy Statement on Student Unrest,**" and in it included the following paragraph from the statement of the American College Personnel Association: "(The Board of Trustees) calls upon students, faculty and administrators to renew and expand their efforts individually, institutionally, and by all available means to discover ways to improve communication and dialogue among members of the college community and to avoid disruption of educational programs or harm to students, and physical facilities. It urges its members to be mindful of the necessity for patience and wisdom in handling disciplinary and civil charges to the end that students are assured of full consideration, fairness, and due process in the adjudication of such charges." "The Board specifically asked the College "to accord students, as members of the academic community, an appropriate share in the determination of institutional policies in respect to both the instructional program and its social framework . . . to make definite plans, including both academic sanctions and resort to civil authorities, for countering any wilful attack on the peace and order of the academic community." The statement was timely, for Saint Joseph's also was to experience some disruption of its daily operation.

Miss Helen Skinner, who had been director of the food service for many years, resigned. Unable to get a suitable replacement the College engaged an outside food service, SAGA (Service Always Gains Acclaim), which took over on August 1st. SAGA was the nation's largest college food service, operating kitchens and dining rooms for 240 colleges, 12 of them in Indiana. A survey of the dining room employees and the students in the fall found general satisfaction and praise for the way things were going. This was the first time that the College was not operating its own food service.

There were other personnel changes which directly affected the students. Dr. John Egan, who had been the Director of Student Affairs during the past year, and Father Richard Wise, who had been the Dean of Men, both resigned. Father Richard Kissner took Dr. Egan's place, and Mr. Carrol Glenn took Fr. Wise's place. With women students about to move onto campus a **Dean of Women** was needed and Mrs. Nona Noel was hired as the first Dean of Women. Mrs. Elizabeth Dunn became the director or House Mother of Justin Hall, soon to become affectionately known as "Ma". Father William Staudt, recently retired army chaplain, took over the office of Business Manager of the College, succeeding Father Paul Wellman, who temporarily withdrew because of ill health.

1968- When school opened the enrollment was 1427, a record number. Included  
1969 in the number were **80 women living on campus** in the east wing of Justin Hall, separated by a common lounge from the men living in the west wing. Even though the enrollment was a record to that date, it was almost fifty below what had been projected and upon which the budget was set. The shortfall was due to the fact that the number of resident women did not reach

the anticipated 125. A 3% reduction in the budget became necessary. It also became clear that high enrollment alone would not solve budget problems, for throughout these years of high enrollment, operational deficits were common.

During the course of the fall the new Core Program was explained to the faculty and students. The students seemed generally well pleased with the program, though it would not affect them directly, since the program would become effective with the freshmen of 1969. Of the faculty 85% voted in favor of the program. Father William Kramer, who had his doctorate in Chemistry, was chosen to be the first Chairman of the Core Committee and Core Program Coordinator. He was succeeded in 1973 by Dr. John Nichols, who has held the position since then.

The library began the task of changing from the Dewey Decimal System to the **Library of Congress System** for the cataloging of books. This was in line with the trend nationwide, since it was a better system and also made available a greater use of the services of the Library of Congress. The conversion was an immense task and was expected to take three or four years.

1969 In its February meeting the faculty passed the resolution that in the future twelve hours of a foreign language or its equivalent would be required for a **Bachelor of Arts** degree. Heretofore there was no distinction in requirements between the B.A. and the B.S. degree and students were free to choose the one they preferred. The reason for the new regulation was to expand the foreign language department and to improve the academic profile of the College. The actual result was that almost every graduate took a Bachelor of Science degree, even in such liberal arts subjects as English.

Father Staudt resigned as Business Manager of the College and was appointed Director of Halleck Center, a job which he was to hold until his retirement in 1980. Father Paul Wellman, who had been Business Manager of the College from 1959 to 1968, returned to take over the new office of Comptroller of the Budget. The position of Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, vacant since Father Ambrose Ruschau resigned from the job the previous year, was now filled by Mr. Thomas Moore, the first layman to hold the office. The appointment was hailed by *Stuff* as a progressive step, since the job was to be performed by one who had been professionally prepared for the work.

There was **racial tension** on campus. In a "Statement to the Saint Joseph's Family on Racial Tension," issued at the end of the school year, Father Banet stated succinctly the situation: "For years we have had black students enrolled at Saint Joseph's, without significant problems. The temper of the times has changed, however, and racial tension felt in our cities and across the country has come to the campus. Through the year there have been more and more serious threats and counter-threats, between black and white. Whatever

judgment one makes as to the source of the unrest — both groups have contributed to the tension — it is clear that name calling, threats, fear and even hate have no place in a Christian community.” To deal with the situation and to restore a climate of openness, compassion and good will he promised two actions: 1) the establishment of a Council of Human Relations, 2) improvement of campus security. These measures helped, but peace did not come substantially until the nation as a whole calmed down and people became more sensitive in the area of civil rights, and less fearful of neighbors who were different.

- 1969- School opened on September 4, 1969 with 1454 students. Of this number  
 1970 265 were women, 196 of them living on campus. The faculty was the largest in Saint Joseph’s history: 82 full-time along with 15 part-time teachers. Forty percent of the faculty held earned doctorates. Among the students were 110 seminarians consisting of five groups. The novitiate, up till now taken after the sophomore year, was shifted to after graduation. This meant that there were two junior classes, one of professed students and one of non-professed. To accommodate them, some of the seminarians lived in Aquinas Hall, and this further complicated the tight housing. In spite of the newly erected Justin Hall, there were 90 students living in private homes in Rensselaer in addition to 34 in Washburn Hall.

**The enrollment of 1454** students was to be the largest that Saint Joseph’s would ever have. With a few fluctuations there would be a steady decline to 847 in the fall of 1985. During this whole period, however, the national enrollment kept increasing, but with a steady shift of students away from private to public colleges. Among the various causes for the shift, one can cite the decreased need that students felt for attending an independent or church-related institution, among Catholic students perhaps the result of Vatican Council II, and in the general public perhaps the consequence of the general upheaval and shift in values. Other reasons were the rising costs of higher education, the proliferation of educational facilities, and state scholarship aid in surrounding areas, aid that could not be taken out of state. This latter fact greatly affected the enrollment of Saint Joseph’s from Illinois, and especially from the greater Chicago area, with its heavy concentration of Catholic high schools from which the College had traditionally drawn half of its students. With the nursing program, enrollment rose to 1001 in 1988.

The new semester saw more personnel changes. Both Father Richard Kissner, the Director of Student Affairs, and Mr. Carrol Glenn, Dean of Men, resigned. Mr. Glenn was succeeded by Mr. John Bernacki, and Fr. Kissner by Father Emil Labbe, the first to hold the title of **Vice President for Student Affairs**. Father Labbe had graduated from Saint Joseph’s in 1963 and during his senior year had been President of the Student Association. Father Francis Spanbauer, Director of Admissions, took a leave of absence to pursue further education, and was succeeded by Father Richard Wise, who

had been his assistant the year before, and whose assistant in turn became Father Sante Reale.

The **new Core Program** went into effect for the 449 freshmen, and replaced the former general education program that had required 54 semester hours of credit from English, History, Humanities, Literature, Philosophy, Theology, Physical Science, Social Science, and Speech. The new Core Program of 45 semester hours, running through all four years instead of mainly the first two as in the previous program, was integrative rather than distributive, and interdisciplinary. In addition to imparting knowledge, the aim of the program was to create in the student a solid grounding in communication, social responsibility, and personal awareness. There were common lectures for the entire class along with required readings, the class being broken down into small groups for discussion. Though there have been changes in the focusing and definition of aims and in the selection and sequence of materials, the original program remains the College's General Education program today. It has been nationally recognized and acclaimed, as indicated in books and reports and through financial support from the government and private foundations.

Because of unrest on campus, the Vice President for Student Affairs, with the consent of the President's Council, authorized the security men to wear guns, and all were deputized. This seems to have been the practice on other campuses also. The presence of guns was meant for the protection of the security personnel themselves and for the defense of others. Security cars were also equipped with police radios.

During this time a lively debate was carried on in *Stuff* through editorials, letters to the editor, and news stories. The dialogue was on local issues (cleanliness of the dormitories, campus maintenance, discipline, "indifference of administration") and on national issues as they affected the College (Vietnam War, draft, protests, racism). A sample of the war issue is seen in this story in *Stuff*: "The Peace Union set up a 'table for the alternative' next to the Air Force recruiters last Thursday in Halleck Center. 'We wanted to show that there is an alternative to what the establishment offers' . . . While the Air Force recruiters were in Halleck Center members of the Union read aloud the names of men killed in Vietnam . . . Shortly before the recruiters left, a Mass for peace was celebrated in the ballroom. 'This liturgy . . . was for those who thought that the war is against what Christianity stands for.'" (October 2, 1969) Spokesmen for the Peace Union said that they had no animosity towards the Air Force and actually had helped them set up their table. And the Air Force team said that the presence of the Peace Union actually attracted students toward their own table. Obviously there was no uniform point of view.

There was a general sentiment, supported by statistics, among faculty and

administration that the scholastic quality of the student body was declining. Dr. Gatto, Dean of the College, feeling that something had to be done, submitted a detailed program called "**The Calculated Risk**," approved by the faculty and Board of Trustees. Among the features of the program were a call for upping of admissions standards, increase in scholarship aid, raise in faculty salaries, renovation of physical plant, construction of a new library, institution of new group-majors, and elevation to the status of majors the five programs of Medical Technology, Classical Languages, French, German, and Physics. The measures were all designed to bring respectability to the academic program and to attract good students. Though there were some results, because of the expense involved much of the program was never implemented or maintained. Majors were instituted in the five areas mentioned above, but the only one that has survived is Medical Technology.

- 1970 In February Mr. William Stafford, a native of Port Arthur, Texas, joined the Admissions Staff as an assistant. He was hired on the advice of Johnson Associates, a professional admissions advisory firm, whom the College had engaged to help re-organize student recruitment. Two months later Stafford himself became the Director of Admissions, succeeding Father Richard Wise, whom the President removed for "irreconcilable differences in programs," and the fear that his programs would not increase or even maintain the previous year's enrollment. But under Mr. Stafford, too, enrollments would continue to decline, precipitously so in 1971, his first full year in office.

The basketball team for the first time in its history received a bid to play in the **Great Lakes Regional** of the NCAA College Division Basketball Tournament. The bid was accepted and a large portion of the student body accompanied the team with great enthusiasm. The team won its first two games at Mount Pleasant, Michigan, against Capital University of Columbus, Ohio, and Central Michigan of Mount Pleasant, but at Evansville, Indiana, lost the third game to the University of California of Riverside. The team had earlier tied with Butler University for the championship of the Indiana Collegiate Conference. Later two seniors played on the Indiana All-Star Senior squad against the Ohio All-Stars.

On Friday, April 10, 1970, the first **Annual Scholarship Dinner** was held in Chicago at the Ambassador West Hotel. The \$100-a-plate dinner drew over 350 guests, which netted \$36,000. All the proceeds from the dinner went into the scholarship fund since the cost of the dinner was paid for by George Halas, owner of the Chicago Bears and member of the Saint Joseph's College Board of Trustees. Honored at the dinner were the male and female member of the senior class with the highest cumulative averages. They were respectively Robert Kokandy, mathematics major of Whiting, Indiana, and Mrs. Rose Brunton, education major of Morocco, Indiana. Music for the occasion was provided by the Saint Joseph's Music Department.

The campus, like most others in the country, had its days of tension after



the entrance of American troops into Cambodia and the **death** of four students at **Kent State** University from bullets fired by the National Guard. News of the deaths on May 4th sparked a rally in front of Halleck Center, where students were addressed by two members of the faculty, and after which 350 students marched into Rensselaer, chanting "Peace Now" and singing "We Shall Overcome". The Student Senate made six "demands" of Fr. Banet, the President, among them: 1) an end to the wearing of guns by campus security while on campus (demand was granted), 2) a course in community relations, taught by students for administration, faculty and security (security were given a course in the summer), and 3) the presence of state police on campus be prohibited unless requested by College authorities (demand granted). The Black Student Union, too, which occupied the President's Office for eight hours, had its list of eleven demands. The *Indianapolis Star* reported that Saint Joseph's College kept its cool in the weeks of crisis, something of an exaggeration. But to the extent that things were kept under control, it was the result of much effort: a student convocation, three faculty meetings, two of which lasted five hours each, many meetings of the President's Council and the Human Relations Council, and numerous less formal meetings of students with faculty and administrators. The week and the days that followed, which were the climax of a whole year of "anti-establishment" protests, lectures, teach-ins, black student weekends, etc., made concentration on studies and an orderly end of the semester difficult if not impossible. Various options were given to professors and students for the negotiation of grades and credits at or before the official close of the school year.

1970- When school opened in the fall, enrollment had declined by 88 students  
1971 with the freshman class declining by 98 from 449 to 351. It was estimated that a decline of about 35 students in the freshman class could be attributed to the "Calculated Risk Program," which raised the entrance requirements slightly. On the other hand in the implementation of the "Calculated Risk Program" there had been, in relation to 1966, a 67% increase in scholarship money and an 87% increase in the budget of the Admissions Office. The main reason for the decline was a decrease in applications, a decline experienced by most private colleges. The decline at Saint Joseph's was among the men, who dropped in enrollment from 1189 to 1065, a decrease of 124. Women went up from 265 to 301 for a gain of 36, leaving a total loss over the previous year of 88.

There were further personnel changes. In its March 10, 1970 meeting the President's Council had passed the following resolution: "Next year there is to be a Personnel Dean and an Associate Personnel Dean, instead of the two equal deans — of men and women. The sex of the Associate Dean is not to be considered." The changes in the fall partially reflected this resolution. **Mr. Jerome Hughes**, succeeding Mr. John Bernacki, was appointed

Personnel Dean, and Ruth Knox, succeeding Mrs. Harlan Noel, was appointed Associate Personnel Dean. Further administrative changes saw Father Paul Wellman become Vice President for Business Affairs succeeding Father William Eilerman, who had been the Treasurer since 1961. James Foote became assistant to the Director of Admissions, succeeding Father Sante Reale, who moved over to the Office of Development.

Both the President of the Student Association and a faculty representative, nominated by the faculty, became **voting members** of the Board of Trustees in its November meeting. This was one of the "demands" presented by the student body during the turbulent days of the previous May. They had already been invited the previous year to be guests and channels of information, but the request to be voting members had been denied by the Board because the maximum number of 35 voting members allowed by the By-Laws had already been reached. But since the Board was genuinely desirous of having the two representatives as voting members, the new Chairman of the Board, G. Richard Schreiber, together with other members, found a way around the problem by making the new persons *ex officio* members, thus not counted in the maximum of 35. Other *ex officio* members were the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the President of the College, and the President of the Alumni Association. The members of the Board of Trustees thus numbered 40.

On November 8, the Saint Joseph's College 107-member marching band, under the direction of Gary Smith, appeared in Wrigley Field as guests of the Chicago Bears in their game with the San Francisco 49ers. It performed a five minute pre-game show and a seven minute halftime show, both of which were televised regionally, including parts of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. The band reached its zenith during the years when Gary Smith was director. He did an excellent job of recruiting freshmen and whipped up great enthusiasm for both the marching and concert bands. The whole Music Department benefited from his work.

Though there was still plenty of radicalism around, much of the spirit of confrontation seemed to have exhausted itself in the paroxysm of the previous May. This we can observe from an editorial in *Stuff* (October 29, 1970): "A definite change is coming over this institution, and the recent football successes and the marching band's invitation to the Chicago Bears game are indicative of this . . . Things are looking up at SJC, and this extends to all aspects of the College! Both of the first Fine Arts Series have been quite well received, for the first time in many years, by both students and faculty who completely filled the auditorium for *Arms and the Man*, and nearly filled the fieldhouse for the Illinois Symphony." Nor was it without significance, as an overture of good relations, when the Black Student Union invited faculty and administration to a tea in their Liberation Lounge. The response to the invitation was both gratifying and welcome.

1971 Even though there were 107 students in the interterm, with two groups,

29 in all, going abroad to England and Russia, the faculty in its April meeting decided to **drop the interterm**. The second semester in the following school year would begin immediately after New Year's and close at the end of April to be followed by a five week spring session beginning in May and a five week summer session beginning the third week of June. Among the reasons given for the change was that Collegeville was too dreary during January for the few students around, and furthermore that the new calendar would get students off campus before the "protest season" of May, and into the work market ahead of other college students. The latter benefit has since been somewhat blunted inasmuch as many other colleges, including the State colleges of Indiana, now follow the same program. Another advantage of the new calendar was that by attending four spring sessions (and perhaps one summer session) students could graduate in three years.

The area that for some twenty years had been used as a park for the C.P.P.S. seminarians was opened up for general College use. In the course of time it became available for swimming, boating, fishing and camping for the College personnel and their families. The Board of Trustees in 1975 named it Lake Banet in honor of Father Banet's father.

The "**Little 500**" for the first time was **motorized**, replacing the hand pushed carts. The track was an oval formed by the road east of Halas and Gallaher Halls, and the road west of the carpenter shop and Health Center. Ed Carter, whose pit crew was able to change an engine during the race in 90 seconds, took the first prize of \$500. The race was televised over Channel 8 through the Rensselaer cable system by arrangement with the campus radio station. Dan Bryan, chairman of the race, estimated, counting pit crews and a variety of officers and promoters and organizers, that the race directly involved about 300 students. There were also outside sponsors and many visitors to the campus. The Little 500 weekend has remained the biggest annual student event on campus.

The trend toward a fuller representation of students in the government of the College was completed when the June 1971 meeting of the Board of Trustees authorized the following statement for the Faculty Handbook: "There is official student representation on all institutional committees, excepting that of faculty tenure. The details of this representation are to be worked out through the cooperation of the individual committees and the Student Senate." This was confirmation of the action taken by the President in September 1969.

There had been deficits and mounting debts for the last four years. The school year 1969-70, the year of the College's all-time high enrollment, saw an operational deficit of \$317,000. The **deficit situation**, accompanied by the decrease in enrollment and coupled with the fact that half of the private colleges in the country were having financial problems, was beginning to

have a depressive effect on the faculty. This prompted the President to say to the faculty in its meeting of April 28, 1971: "We are in a financial crisis, but we are not in a sinking ship, and it does not help the situation for the faculty to talk as if we were." He said that during the summer a complete evaluation of the financial situation would be made and in September the Trustees would meet to discuss a 5-year plan and to set priorities for the expenditure of funds. He stated further that the budget for the next year was based on the assumption that enrollment would be the same as during the past year. The actual enrollment, however, was to be down by 169. And this latter fact illustrated the tendency of college officials during these years to overestimate projected enrollments. At one time it was confidently expected that the student body would go to 2500 or even 3000. Declining enrollment was a problem that the College would continue to face throughout the decade of the 1970's and into the 1980's.

1971-     The **food service** was now in the hands of ARA (American Retail Association). The College was not dissatisfied with the service of SAGA, but ARA was able to offer the same service at much lower cost. The consolidation of the two dining rooms, also, which the Treasurer of the College had been advocating for two years, came about with the hiring of the new management. The old dining room in the chapel basement would be used for special dinners, for dances and parties, for class registrations and meetings of various kinds. In 1982 it would be remodeled to house the activities and offices of the Departments of Psychology and Communications, including the College radio and TV facilities.

The school year opened with an enrollment of 1197, the first time in seven years that it had fallen below 1200. While the total enrollment continued to decline, the enrollment of women continued to increase, so much so that Justin Hall was no longer able to house all the resident women. The result was that **Noll Hall became co-educational**, with the first floor for 49 men and the second floor for 25 women. Eventually this dual situation would give way to Halas Hall, originally built for men, becoming totally for women.

During the orientation of freshmen, August 26-29, Columbia Pictures was filming at Saint Joseph's the 90-minute movie entitled "Brian's Song", which celebrates the friendship between Chicago Bears teammates Gale Sayers and Brian Piccolo, who had recently died of cancer. The picture was later shown on ABC Television and has been re-run a number of times since. The College was given two copies and has used them frequently for campus showings and elsewhere. Scenes from the campus that appear in the picture are the front entrance, the Halleck Center dining room, Justin Hall, where the Bears lived during the summer, and the field west of Justin where they practiced. From the playing field can also be seen other buildings of the College. Apart from Halleck Center the inside scenes were taken in California.

In spite of the drop in enrollment the Administration was able to present to the Board of Trustees a **balanced budget** for approval in its meeting of October 22. Some of the balance was achieved through delayed maintenance of the physical plant. The Board also approved the recommendation of the faculty that "Candidates for freshman standing will be selected from applicants who hold a certificate of graduation from an approved high school." This was a survival measure and in spite of the fact that the Board asked the Admissions Committee to be cautious in the admission of high risk students, it was further retreat from the "Calculated Risk Program". Father Banet had also announced to the Faculty that if no alternative was presented he had no choice but to recommend to the Board the elimination of football. The alternative that the Board approved was a 10% reduction in the Athletic Budget for the year 1972-73 and, over a three-year period, decrease of full athletic grants from 43 to 32, both grants and budget reduction to be allocated by the Athletic Department.

In spite of the perennial debate over dropping football, and the reduction in athletic grants and budgets, the morale of the football team and the coaches was very high. Saint Joseph's **captured the championship** in the Indiana Collegiate Conference, the first time since 1957. The head coach, Mr. William Jennings, and his assistant coaches, Ernest Fritsch and John "Red" Kenney had put together a well-run team. They were helped by an enthusiastic student body and marching band. At the last and decisive game against Evansville, played at Collegeville, a crowd of 4000 not only cheered on the team but witnessed a marvelous performance by the Saint Joseph's band and three High School bands, plus the Sweet Sixteen, a pompom group, and the flag corps. About ten percent of the SJC student body belonged to these music groups. *Stuff* was able to say that "the number of people involved lends credence to the belief that students are attracted, at least in part, to Saint Joseph's because of the musical organizations." (November 4, 1971, p. 1)

There were further personnel changes. Father Emil Labbe was no longer Vice President for Student Affairs. The instability in this area was reflected in an editorial comment in *Stuff*: "The first man to hold down the Student Affairs office for longer than one year has resigned . . . Why has this college found it so difficult to retain a man in the Student Affairs office for an extended length of time? Labbe seems to have pointed out a solution to this puzzle. He feels that this office should be filled by a layman . . . with professional experience." (March 18, 1971) Others felt the same way, but because of the financial problems of the College, the Board of Trustees would not approve the hiring of a layman. The area was left directly under the jurisdiction of the President, and it would be ten years before another Vice President for Student Affairs was engaged, this time a layman. Dr. Louis Gatto also resigned to become the President of Marian College in Indianapolis. Father Bernard Meiring, Chairman of the Education Department, was ap-

pointed in his place as acting Vice President for Academic Affairs.

On October 5th, 1971, Drexel Hall, former home of Saint Joseph's Indian Normal School, was dedicated as an official **historical site** of the State of Indiana. At the entrance to the Drexel road on Highway 231 an historical marker was erected reading: "St. Joseph's Indian Normal School 1888-1896, erected by the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions with funds from Katharine Drexel and operated by the Society of the Precious Blood with federal funds. 60 Indian boys from distant reservations were annually trained here." Approximately 100 - townspeople, students, faculty members and guests - attended the ceremony. Participating in the dedication was Father Edward Maziarz, professor of philosophy at Loyola Univeristy in Chicago and former Dean of Saint Joseph's and faculty director of Drexel Hall. He had gathered much of the documentation which Father Dominic Gerlach, who also participated in the ceremony, later used to write a history of the Indian School that appeared in the March 1973 issue of *Indiana Magazine of History*; it subsequently appeared as a separate 42-page booklet.

- 1972     Changing times and tastes were reflected in the **dropping of the Senior Prom**, which for three decades had been one of the highlights of elegant social life on campus. But in the previous year the Prom had attracted only 65 couples out of a class of 280, and for the first and last time it was held off campus, in the Holiday Inn at Lafayette. This year instead there was held on campus a "Happy Hour" champagne buffet dinner and semi-formal Junior-Senior Spring Dance. It took place on April 15, to coincide with the day of the Little 500 race.

For the first time Saint Joseph's was to have a student in the Olympic games to be played at Munich, Germany. He was basketball player, Jim Thordsen, who as a freshman during the past year had won the hearts of all the fans with his spirited play, and led the ICC in both field goals and free throw accuracy. He would go on to become, in the eyes of most, Saint Joseph's greatest basketball player and one of its finest gentlemen. He was from San-turce, Puerto Rico, and was chosen to play on the Puerto Rican Olympic team.

The North Central Association extended the accreditation of the College for another ten years, and this included the newly created **Masters Program** for the Summer Institute of Liturgical Music. A graduate program had been initiated in 1966 in affiliation with DePaul Univeristy in Chicago. But on July 28, 1972, full accreditation was granted to Saint Joseph's own independent graduate program, which offers a Master of Arts Degree in Music with a concentration in church Music.

- 1972-     The Admissions Office reported that the Student Admissions Corps pro-  
1973     gram had brought in 34 students for this school year. The program offered incentive pay to all students who talked with their friends and neighbors and

then fully recruited them for Saint Joseph's. For each such person recruited the student received \$100 toward tuition up to \$1750, which was the total tuition for that year. The program, however, met with strong opposition from admissions officers of other colleges as being unethical, the student recruiters being referred to as "bounty hunters". Though eminently successful in getting students involved and in helping recruitment, the program was dropped the next year because of the unfavorable publicity.

Among personnel changes was the appointment of **Dr. Robert Garrity** as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs, succeeding Fr. Meiring who had been the acting Vice President during the previous year. Dr. Garrity came to Saint Joseph's from the College of Steubenville in Ohio, where, after earning a doctorate in philosophy from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, he had been a professor, Associate Dean of the Faculty and lastly Associate Dean of Humanities.

With the shrinking enrollment came also a decrease in the faculty. Whereas the peak figure in 1969 was 97 teachers (full and part time) there were now only 83. The decrease had been the result of natural attrition without replacement. But this year the administration began issuing terminal contracts for both tenured and non-tenured full-time teachers in areas where their services were least needed. The reduction was accomplished on the basis of "**financial exigency**." Provision for such action was made in a series of resolutions approved by the Board of Trustees in their meeting of August 11, 1972, in accordance with the accepted practice of colleges and universities. Those who were not tenured were released altogether, but those with tenure, with two exceptions, were shifted to other positions within the College. It was a time of anguish for many, and the College was pledged to help the people affected in making the adjustment. The existence of the Core Program lent a degree of flexibility in the use of the faculty not always found in other colleges which were encountering similar experiences.

Like the rest of the country Saint Joseph's was suffering not only from monetary inflation, but also from what was called "**grade inflation**". Grades had been gradually rising since 1963 but took a dramatic jump in 1969 and the years following. The rise was so great nationwide that instead of a C being an average grade, B had practically become so. It was generally conceded that an important reason was the Vietnam War, during which high grades could keep students out of the army and maybe more contented on campus. Once the inflation had taken place it was difficult to reverse it, for acceptance to graduate school and good jobs was partly based on grades, and no college wanted to lower its grades unilaterally and have its students suffer. A proposal in the Academic Cabinet to declare B instead of C the average grade at Saint Joseph's was not accepted, but it did express senti-

ment of many concerning the real situation. Though there has been some very moderate correction of the situation, the problem persists.

1973 The most traumatic event in the history of the College occurred on February 4th, 1973, when the **Administration Building caught fire** shortly after midnight. Since it was immediately perceived that the fire, from unknown causes, could not be contained, students and staff worked heroically to remove as many records and other valuables as possible. What academic records were lost were later reproduced from microfilm copies preserved in a recently built fire proof vault, which also contained the financial and some other institutional records. But some valuables were lost, including faculty books and notes, many of which were irreplaceable. What could not be expressed in words was the realization that the building, which had at one time practically been the College, and the temporary home for thousands of alumni, was gone.

Apart from any sentiment or loss of contents was the fact that the institution had lost 68,000 square feet of space containing faculty and administrative offices, eleven classrooms, and meeting and storage rooms. Fortunately Xavier Hall was not in use at the time, since the seminarians had vacated it to allow for repairs, they themselves having moved into Schwietermann Hall. The Administration at once moved into Xavier. Since there was room elsewhere on campus, students were moved out of Gaspar Hall and the building was used for faculty offices. But the lack of classroom space was severe and would remain so for several years. The College had a week in which to make adjustments. Classes were suspended for a week, but with the help of a large number of student volunteers the place was ready, however makeshift in many areas, to continue its operation when the rest of the students returned a week later.

However tragic the loss, there was also a blessing in the loss. As Father Banet told a student convocation: "Something like this, a crisis, as paradoxical as it seems, provides a chance to open the curtain on a new and better future for the College and the students." It also brought out the best in the wider community. The City of Rensselaer and surrounding area responded warmly to the need of the College through **The Neighbor Fund**, organized February 16th to gather financial support for the College. Their sentiments were expressed by alumnus Dr. Kenneth Ahler: "Many of us in the Rensselaer Community want to help Saint Joseph's recover from this tragic loss by organizing our fellow neighbors to demonstrate our faith in the future of this college." Pledges started coming in immediately. The Fund also organized the Good Neighbor Days, June 14-16, days of festivity, the proceeds from which went to the Neighbor Fund. By the end of the festivities income and pledges had risen to over \$160,000.

There were early plans to rebuild. The College made application for a 1.8



million dollar federally subsidized loan, engaged Ketchum, Inc., to launch a fund raising campaign, and hired Woollen Associates, an architectural firm out of Indianapolis, to compile a master plan of the campus and to make recommendations for maximum use of present buildings and suggestions for new ones. But there was no clear consensus on what kind of new construction was needed, and the Board of Trustees urged the College to make maximum use of existing space, and required that money be raised to meet interest charges and to take care of maintenance on any new building before a loan be taken out. In the end the decision was not to replace the old building with a new one.

1973- A step toward the separation of Saint Joseph's College Calumet Campus  
1974 came on August 18, 1971, when the name was changed to Saint Joseph's Calumet College. The final step came with the resolution of the Board of Directors on December 7th, 1973: "Be it resolved that the Calumet Division of Saint Joseph's College Corporation be established as a college separately incorporated under the laws of the State of Indiana." The name was officially changed to **Calumet College**. That it was ready for independent status was evidenced by the fact that in the previous spring it had graduated 251 with Bachelor Degrees and 42 with two-year Associate Degrees. What had begun in 1951 as an extension center was now a fully accredited independent college.

1974 **The basketball team** received an invitation to participate in the NCAA Division II tournament. This marked the second time that a Saint Joseph's basketball team appeared in NCAA post-season action, the first time being the spring of 1970. The team was led by Jim Thorlsen, a little All-American, who this year set a new Saint Joseph's scoring record for a single season. The team, under coach John Weinert, won the first two games, and thus for the second time became the Great Lakes Regional Champions, but lost the third game.

1974- For the second year in a row there had been no decline in enrollment. The  
1975 general feeling on campus was good. Over the summer \$300,000 had been spent in renovating and carpeting the dormitories and beautifying the campus. **The dining service** was again under the direct management of the College, with Mr. James Novak hired as the director of the food service. The new management was expected to save annually a minimum of \$50,000 without any reduction in service. The new management actually brought better service at lower cost, and the students generally expressed satisfaction with the change. A \$250,000 grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. to the Core Program bolstered the faith of the College in Core and facilitated improvements. There would be a number of other grants in the future from various sources to continue and to enhance the program.

The **financial plight** of the College, however, continued and worsened

because of the unexpectedly huge deficit of \$330,000 from the previous year. Money had to be borrowed early in the school year to meet operating expenses. A special meeting of selected members of the Board of Trustees was held on September 23rd and passed the following resolution: "There is a *bona fide* state of financial exigency existing at Saint Joseph's College. Every possible remedy must be taken to change the situation." The Board in its November meeting authorized that \$550,000 of the plant fund, established with the million dollars of insurance money from the Administration Building fire, be transferred to operations to liquidate the current debt. Permission was sought from HUD to waive payment of \$180,000 into the sinking fund in connection with the federally subsidized loans. The Board also mandated a reduction in the range of \$100,000 in salaries in the academic area, preferably through reduction in personnel.

It became necessary also to raise room and board by \$125 for the second semester, an unprecedented action in the middle of a school year. The announcement was made to the students in a convocation held the week before Thanksgiving. The President, Father Banet, took the occasion to spell out realistically to the College Community the gravity of the situation, but at the same time to dispel any rumors that the College was on the verge of imminent collapse. He emphasized that "we must economize, we must sacrifice." At the same time he stressed that the attitude of the Board of Trustees was one of "confidence, optimism, and great hope for the future." *Stuff* (November 21, 1974), in an editorial entitled "Think Twice Before Jumping Ship," encouraged students not to think of transferring, and observed that "As Father Banet put it so well, the problems experienced here are not unique to Saint Joseph's. They are a state, national and even worldwide problem," because of inflation and the general economy. As the following year's enrollment showed, the students did not panic but stayed with the ship.

Since Calumet College was now independent and there was no longer any need for a two Board structure of Saint Joseph's College, it was decided to merge the two Boards — the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees — into a single Board of Trustees. At the same time it was the wish of the Board of Trustees that the College remain under the control of the Society of the Precious Blood and that such control extend to final decisions in all important matters and to the ultimate destiny of the College. This **ultimate control** was guaranteed by the Amended Articles of Incorporation adopted in the meeting of the Board of Trustees on October 4th, 1974. Article 12 designated that the Corporate Members, all of whom are members of the Society of the Precious Blood, by majority vote "may at any time remove from office any and all of the members of the Board of Trustees, with or without cause" . . . and "may elect such number of Trustees as they may deem advisable to fill the vacancies so created." Furthermore the funds invested by the Society of the Precious Blood in the College over the years

were protected by Article 14 which states that "Upon the liquidation or dissolution of the Corporation, after the payment and discharge of all corporate debts and liabilities, the remainder of the corporate assets shall be distributed to the Society of the Precious Blood, Cincinnati Province." Thus while entrusting the direct governance of the College to an able and dedicated Board of Trustees, most of whose members are laymen, the Society of the Precious Blood retains the ultimate rights and responsibilities in the conduct of the College Corporation.

- 1975 Father Paul Wellman resigned from the Office of Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer of the College. He was succeeded in both offices by Mr. Thomas **Crowley**, the first layman to hold the office. He had already been working in the office as a part-time assistant, while teaching in the Accounting Department. He would continue the "austerity program" and through prudent management would help bring the budget into balance. Other resignations during the second semester were Mr. Gerald Gladu, Vice President for Development, and Mr. William Stafford, Director of Admissions. The position of Vice President for Development would be absorbed by Father Banet for the time being.

The basketball team won the Indiana Collegiate Conference championship, and for the second year in succession accepted an invitation to the NCAA Division II post-season tournament. With senior **Jim Thordsen** setting new records, some considered this the greatest team Saint Joseph's ever fielded. The Pumas won the first game of the tournament, but lost the second one.

For the first summer since 1944 the **Chicago Bears** were not living on campus. They had come that summer to prepare for the College All Star Game, and for the next thirty years made the campus their regular summer training camp. Their presence had been a fine source of publicity for the College and would not be easily compensated for, but the financial loss from their withdrawal was made up through the additional band camps and other summer activities. Over the years the College facilities had become less desirable for the Bears in view of the increasing number of black players for whom social life was limited in Saint Joseph's rural setting.

The **Brick-by-Brick** Campaign, which had been organized to recover through campus renovation the space lost in the fire, came to an end on July 15th, 1975. The goal had been to raise \$2,000,000, and this target was all but met. The final report showed pledges of \$1,988,559 and payments of \$767,350. Even though the Campaign was closed, efforts would go on to increase gifting for capital purposes to offset inflationary factors and to take care of some of the maintenance necessarily delayed because of the past financial problems, and to make up for some of the pledges that would not be fulfilled.

- 1975- Enrollment went up in the first semester from 1064 the previous year to  
1976 1091 this fall. In a letter to the Trustees, dated September 24, 1975, the Presi-

dent could sound an optimistic note. "As you know," he wrote, "our priority effort during the past year was to increase the number of students. We have increased our enrollment by 27 students. This is not as great an increase as we had hoped, but the fact that there are 66 more freshmen than last year is a sign of improvement. Retention is normal . . . The Audit for 1974-75 arrived last week. We are pleased that the auditors found no deficit and that Mr. Crowley's monthly projections were accurate . . . The faculty and administration are in an excited and hopeful spirit this year. So far the students seem very pleased with what they found when they came here this fall. The campus looks great after the summer projects which the Board approved." In an earlier memo to the Board of Trustees he had noted that the financial situation of the College had been turned around and that this had been due primarily to the firm but confident action of the Board and especially to the prompt and persistent leadership of its Chairman, G. Richard Schreiber.

The increase in enrollment was partly the result of the use of **Search**, a program through which the College Entrance Examination Board furnished names of high school seniors in specified categories. This year Saint Joseph's had received name, address and some academic information on 410,000 students. This effort was supplemented by the activities of a full-time admissions counselor working in the eastern part of the United States. Another important factor was the increase in student financial aid, especially to the freshman class. The aid distributed directly by or through the College to freshman students went from \$152,110 to \$263,524, with the number of recipients rising from 119 to 169. Though the freshman class constituted 36% of the student body, it received 47% of the aid. With respect to the **Search** Program, though it had been useful for the past several years, and especially the current year, it soon lost its effectiveness when other colleges began using the same service and students became flooded with admissions literature from a great many colleges. Direct contact would soon again become a matter of high priority.

Among the new personnel at the beginning of the school year were William T. Craig, Director of Admissions, Robert J. Vigeant, new head librarian, and Rosalie Wendling, instructor in Physical Education. Miss Wendling was the first full-time female teacher in physical education. Her presence now made it possible for women students to complete their requirements for a teaching certificate in Physical Education without having to transfer or to take extra courses after graduation.

In its meeting of November 21st, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees approved the dissolution of the cooperative housing project called the **College Community Association**. The project had begun when the Association on March 20, 1957, through use of money from the Ford Foundation grant, leased from the College 25 acres of land in the woods south

of the College. The ten homes making up the Association were now sold to the individual faculty members, and the remaining eleven vacant lots were offered for sale to anyone. The cancellation of the Lease was legally made on December 22, 1975, and thus came to an end a noble experiment that never quite attained the dream of its original founders.

- 1976 In February the College was informed that it had received another \$300,000 from Lilly Endowment, Inc. for the Core Program, to be distributed over two years. The grant not only helped with financing improvements in the innovative program during difficult economic times, but like the previous grant it helped to prop up the efforts and spirits of the faculty and administration.

On February 29th, 1976, 22 of the 57 black students filed with the Office of Civil Rights "a class action **complaint of racial discrimination**" against Saint Joseph's College on the grounds that "Saint Joseph's Administration and Faculty have failed to recognize or attempt, to this date, to solve the problems of racial conflict which have been festering for sometime." There had been much discussion on campus and in the school paper on racial matters, especially about the refusal of some blacks to stand for the playing of the national anthem at basketball games and their cheering for blacks on opposing teams. The incident that sparked the complaint was a white male student "raid" on a women's dormitory shortly after midnight and their confrontation with a black student security guard. The encounter led to words, then to racial epithets and finally to some fighting between blacks and whites in a male student dormitory. The OCR decided to investigate and asked for reams of documents — handbooks, catalogs, records of hearings, etc., etc. Two investigators from the Office spent three days on campus interviewing administration, faculty and students. The Administration freely admitted that there were pockets of prejudice among individual white students, but it provided evidence that it had taken firm measures to meet the situation. There was also fault on the part of some of the blacks who seemed to be looking for confrontation. The outcome of the investigation was the complete exoneration of the College in its general attitude towards racial problems and its handling of the specific incident. The only criticism was that some measures taken and decisions made were not always promptly communicated to aggrieved parties. This was the last racial flare-up of any importance on campus, and race problems have since all but disappeared.

In March, after ten years of waiting, the repainting, repairing and carpeting of the **Chapel** was nearing completion. The re-decorating was being done by DePrato of Chicago. Benno Scheidler, a friend of the College and brother of Father Albin Scheidler (former teacher, coach and treasurer of SJC), had provided \$25,000 towards the renovation project. Some other money was raised for the acquisition of new sanctuary furniture, including a new altar and a new tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament side chapel in the west

transept. While some of the older alumni regretted any changes in the traditional appearance of the Chapel, most people thought the renovation not only greatly improved the esthetics of the building, but also made it more conducive to prayer and worship.

In its April 23rd meeting the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Thomas Crowley to allow him to take a job with Edward J. Funk & Sons, a seed corn company in Kentland, Indiana. A special resolution of the Board acknowledged his accomplishments and interest in Saint Joseph's College since he took office on February 14, 1975. To succeed him as Vice President for Business Affairs and Treasurer, the Board elected Mr. Kenneth Zawodny, who had established the Computer Center in 1966 and for the next ten years had been its director.

The basketball team again was invited to participate in the NCAA Division II **post-season tournament**, only to be eliminated in the first game by Eastern Illinois. Going to tournaments seemed no longer to be exciting to the students who had become blase, and scarcely anything was made of it in the school paper. This was the last season for John Weinert, who took a new job as coach at Bowling Green University. He was succeeded by George Waggoner, who had been coaching at Earlham College.

For the first time a **woman was elected** Student Association president, Deborah Frantz, a math-computer major from Reading, Pennsylvania. Two of the other three SA officers were also women. Women had become more and more involved in student government, class offices and other leadership positions. They would especially dominate the Halleck Center Student Union Board, which would be founded in 1979 to handle much of the social life on campus.

For the first time this year the women's volleyball and basketball teams played teams from other colleges, volleyball in the first semester and basketball in the second. Although Saint Joseph's competed with other colleges, the team was not under the auspices of intercollegiate competition and the matches were sporadic. It would be another year before women's varsity sports in the true sense would come into being.

Over the summer **Lake Banet** became a full-fledged recreation area. It now had a well defined swimming area, a life guard tower, a grill, two covered pavilions for picnic tables, and a bathhouse for swimmers to change clothes. Boating and fishing were also available. There were in addition picnic areas, limited camping facilities, and places for volleyball, softball and basketball. The grounds are available to students and to college personnel and their families.

Over the summer, also, the **Office of Financial Aid** was separated from that of the Registrar's Office. During the preceding year Mr. David Hoover,

a member of the History Department, had worked with Father Charles Robbins in financial aid, and now himself became the Director of Student Financial Aids. The financial aid work was small when it was first assumed by the Registrar in 1959, but had grown to great proportions because of the introduction of State and federal programs. In 1982 it was united with Admissions, but became independent again in 1986.

1976- In December the College purchased equipment for more extended **Com-**  
1977 **puter Assisted Instruction.** The new hardware, computer and terminals, and the necessary software amounted to about \$70,000. To this was added another \$30,000 to renovate the room next to the existing computer for installation of the new equipment. The facility made it possible to improve instruction not only in the field of computer science, but also in other areas of the college curriculum, as well as to enhance computer literacy among the faculty.

1977- The new **FM campus radio** station, with the call letters WPUM, began  
1978 broadcasting September 7, 1977. It was licensed by the Federal Communications Commission as a non-commercial educational station. Because the broadcast was now going over the air instead of through the electrical cables on campus, it became possible to reach the surrounding community in a listening radius of eight miles. The operation was under the direction of a member of the faculty, Willard Walsh of the Department of Communications and Theatre Arts. And the station thus also became, more than in the past, along with the recently installed video taping equipment, a laboratory for the Communications Department. The foundations were being laid for a major revision of the course offerings in the Communications Department, a revision which in 1979 would see a greatly expanded curriculum in radio and TV Broadcast Journalism.

On October 28th approval was given for the project of painting **twelve murals**, depicting the history of the College, around the outer wall of the Halleck Center Ballroom. Mrs. Mildred Tait, trustee and chairperson of the Women's Activities Committee, and the one who organized the funding of the project, explained that it was part of a general program for the beautification of the campus, and that the idea of the murals originated with the students, and had been brought to the Committee by Mrs. Diane Jennings, assistant to the Personnel Dean in the area of student activities. Nancy Lynch, a professional artist and wife of the food manager, James Novak, was engaged to do the painting. She worked closely with Father Dominic Gerlach, College archivist and historian, who would later compose a plaque for each mural giving the history portrayed by the picture. Some students also helped the artist in her work, which would turn out to be a two-year project. When finished the truly monumental work would be well received and admired by students, alumni and visitors.

In October **women's Track and Tennis** were raised to the status of varsity sports. This meant that women now were playing in four varsity sports, the other two being volleyball and basketball. In the previous year the women's basketball team won 13 games and lost 1 in the regular season, and in a post-season tournament won one and lost one. Competition at this time was not as strong as it would be in a few years when other Colleges would also be extending athletic grants to attract outstanding women players. Saint Joseph's began giving athletic grants to women basketball players the previous year, and would this year extend them to all four varsity sports.

After several years of off and on discussion and some opposition, a **21-Bar** was opened December 2, 1977, in the basement of Halleck Center, in what had been a pool room. It was operated by the College food service as a club, with membership open to faculty, administration, alumni and students 21 years of age. Remodeling of the former pool room cost about \$7000, but Mr. Zawodny, Treasurer of the College and a major promoter of the project, expected income from the bar to pay for the cost. The Bavarian atmosphere of the room, the plan originally submitted by student Dan Mangen as much as four years earlier, was found by most to be comfortable and relaxing. In a contest to name the room, the name Core XI was chosen, the one submitted by Theresa Strebinger, who at the time was taking the final Core, senior Core X. The bar has been operated by the Office of Student Services since 1986.

1978 Over the summer the College installed a new **Digital Telephone System** that used the latest in electronic and computer equipment. The new system made it possible for individuals to place calls to parties on and off campus without going through the central switchboard, which now needed to be used only for calls coming from the outside. Since each telephone was a kind of miniature switchboard, there was a variety of unassisted operations available to the caller, such as automatic call backs, forwarding of calls, transfer of calls, etc. The only disadvantage was that during an electric outage, telephones went dead, except for those few that had a direct outside line. In 1988 a Centrex system will be added.

1978- After 28 years the Indiana Collegiate Conference ceased to exist. Evansville,  
1979 Butler and Valparaiso joined NCAA Division I in basketball and this necessitated a **conference re-alignment**. The result was that Saint Joseph's belonged to two conferences: a six-team Great Lakes Valley Conference in basketball and an eight-team Heartland Collegiate Conference in football. Five teams in the HCC were former members of the ICC: Saint Joseph's, Indiana Central, Butler, Valparaiso and Evansville. Three teams belonged to both conferences: Ashland College (Ohio), Indiana Central and Saint Joseph's. Three of the GLVC teams were from outside the State of Indiana: Kentucky Wesleyan, Bellarmine (Ky) and Ashland; two teams of the HCC



were from out of State: Ashland and Georgetown (Ky). Some students and alumni had difficulty remembering who were in the conferences. And there are those who believe that this dual membership and the fact that some teams are out of State and not well-known have been factors in an apparent lessening of interest in athletic rivalry in conference play. At the time, Saint Joseph's football team was still playing in NCAA Division III and athletic grants in football were given on a need basis. The following year, however, the team would move up to Division II, as was already the case with basketball, and need would no longer be a necessary factor in athletic grants.

For the first time in 20 years fall enrollment dropped below 1000. Because of the decrease in the student body and because of the extensive maintenance required to keep it in livable shape, **Drexel Hall** was closed down and the students originally assigned there were transferred to Merlini Hall. Thus for a second time there came to an end the active use of the venerable building that had begun in 1888 with the opening of the Indian Normal School. Various uses for the building have been suggested but to date none has been found feasible in relation to the cost of needed renovation. The building remains an Indiana Historical Site, but its continued existence is problematic.

The drop in enrollment was the cause of great concern and much discussion by the Administration and the Board of Trustees. In October Father Banet commissioned the three Vice Presidents (Dr. Garrity, Fr. Meiring and Mr. Zawodny) to come to grips with the problem and formulate a course of action. Among other things they proposed the hiring of an additional person to co-ordinate efforts of the alumni in recruitment and also as in-house coordinator of the visits of prospective students and their parents. Additional funds were also requested to be added to the Admissions Director's budget for travel, printing and office expense. Though the specific increase of \$43,000 would almost certainly result in deficit spending, the board of Trustees nevertheless approved the increase since it felt that something needed to be done to stabilize the enrollment, and there was hope that the increased expense would be offset by an increase of students. The following fall, however, while freshman enrollment rose by 24, total enrollment fell by 28 for a figure of 948.

- 1979 Thirteen senior accounting majors were engaged in an **accounting internship** program with eleven firms. This was the thirteenth year of a very successful program, entrance into which was restricted to those who had done superior work in accounting courses in their first three years. It was for most participants a two-month program, beginning the last week of December, upon completion of which they were given three hours of academic credit. Students were also paid for their work. "This is a valuable program," said the chairman of the Accounting Department. "The students gain the experience of working in company surroundings, and the companies have part-time employees they need during the busy season of January and February." Of the thirteen students, seven were men and six were women.

There was also an internship program in Computer Science, in which students work with IBM for six months. In addition to being paid they also receive nine hours of academic credit. For the first time this year (and for several succeeding years) Dr. John Egan took students on the Dana-Denison internship, a cooperative effort between Dana Corporation of Toledo and Denison University in Granville, Ohio. It was a three-week program, at the beginning of the second semester, in which students and professors from ten other colleges discussed corporate management and its internal and external complications. Students received three hours of credit.

The Office of Vice President for Student Affairs had been vacant since 1971, with student services reporting directly to the President, who had several times suggested that they should rather report to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The suggestion was in effect incorporated into the recommendations made by a team of consultants from Purdue University, hired through a government grant, who regularly visited the campus during the year. In the absence of a Vice President they proposed "that the position of director of Student Services . . . be established and be responsible directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs." This reorganization was carried out in January when Dr. Garrity assumed **the twofold office** of Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, and when he in turn appointed Sister Karen Craig, C.S.J., Assistant Professor of Education, to the new office of Dean of Student Services. Because he felt unable to work within the new arrangement Mr. Jerome Hughes, who had been Personnel Dean since 1971, resigned and joined the Office of counseling and guidance at Kankakee Valley High School. Father James Froelich was then appointed acting Director of Student Discipline and would later be given the title of Director of Student Residence Life. This arrangement would remain until the appointment in 1981 of Mr. William Maniscalco as Vice President for Student Affairs.

The men's basketball team under coach George Waggoner won the Great Lakes Valley Conference title and again became champions in the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional tournament, having beaten two highly rated co-favorites, Eastern Illinois and Wright State. But the team faltered in its third game, losing at Yale to the University of Bridgeport from Connecticut. The women's team, too, in its tournament won the first two games but lost the third one to Butler University.

The College received a \$40,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support **an Institute** on establishing and conducting a Core general education curriculum. Faculty members from other colleges came to the campus to learn through lectures and discussions by faculty members (and some students) from Saint Joseph's, assisted by a few outside speakers, how to set up Core programs in their own colleges. The Institute was held June 3-8 with 82 participants representing 40 institutions. That the Institute was not only flattering to the College but also succeeded in its goal was amply

testified to by the visitors, as can be seen in the remarks of Dr. Gordon F. Vars, an officer of the National Association for Core Curriculum. He praised the College for its courage in being willing to "lay itself open and share the experiences derived from a decade of teaching Core . . . You can wear a mask for a few hours, but here this week you had six days of intensive probing . . . The strong parts as well as the warts of Core were exposed here; it was most informative and practical, and people leaving here have a renewed confidence that they can make Core work too."

- 1979- In August approval was given for the purchase of a **Wicks Organ** for the  
1980 chapel at the cost of \$60,000. An Organ Fund had been established through the efforts of Father Lawrence Heiman to procure a new organ for the Rensselaer Church Music and Liturgy Program. Two gifts of \$10,000 each were obtained by Father Heiman from the DeRance Foundation. Smaller gifts from the Chapel Renovation Fund and the efforts of the personnel in the Summer Music School raised the sum to \$35,000. Then Arnold Kramer, an alumnus of Saint Joseph's and generous benefactor, and brother of Father William Kramer of the Chemistry and summer music school faculties, underwrote the remaining \$25,000. The organ was purchased and installed in the sanctuary in time for the dedication at the beginning of the 1980 summer session. The old organ had been installed in the choir loft in 1921.

Co-champions in 1976 and 1977, the **Puma football team** this year won the conference championship outright with a record of 4-1 and an over-all record of 8-2. This was its first title in the Heartland Collegiate Conference and first undisputed title since 1971. The coach, William Jennings, was in his 13th year, the longest prior tenure for a football coach being five years, held by three of his predecessors. There were eight teams in the Conference, but two of them, Ashland (Oh) and Georgetown (Ky), did not participate in football.

- 1980 The Alumni Association provided a \$20,000 gift to the Halleck Student Union Board to cover the **renovation and redecoration** of the Halleck Center basement and snack bar area. The HSUB had presented the proposal to the Alumni in hope of receiving support in their effort to make Halleck Center basement a genuine area of campus unity. Upon presentation of the gift, Dr. Kenneth Ahler, president of the Alumni Association, commented: "Since 1962 Halleck Center has not been a unified gathering place on campus, rather unity has been centered in the individual dorms and rooms, thus detracting from the campus-wide sense of unity. HSUB and the Alumni Association would like to see the renovated Halleck Center basement and snack bar area as a new focal point of campus life." The College workmen, under the direction of Alfred Hentschel, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, did the major structural work, and students, under the supervision of Brother Gerard Von Hagel, executive director of the Alumni Association, and Mrs. Diane

Jennings, coordinator of HSUB activities, did the decorating and finishing touches. The room became for the first time a very attractive place, one that could be enjoyed by students and shown off to visitors. Along with the murals being painted around the ballroom and the **furniture and furnishings** for the north and south lounges provided from a \$42,000 gift by the Parents Association, Halleck Center took on a new and welcome appearance and comfort. On April 16th the completed snack bar area was dedicated to Father William Staudt, who had been the director of Halleck Center for the past eleven years and had done much to make it a more livable place, and who was retiring at the end of the school year. The murals were dedicated on May 31, 1980.

1980- For the third year in a row the freshman enrollment rose, from 280 to 304  
1981 to 352 this year, with the total enrollment rising from 948 the previous year to 1002 this year. Of this number, 394 or 39.3% were women, and 205 or 20.5% were not Catholic, with Methodists (53), Baptists (33) and Lutherans (26) in the forefront. The enrollment from Indiana continued to rise and became the largest ever, while numbers from the east continued to fall. A partial geographical breakdown showed: Indiana 538, Illinois 285, and Ohio 42.

Gaspar Hall was **closed down** and faculty offices were moved to Merlini Hall, which continued, however, to house a number of students. Because of the increase in enrollment students were also living in Dwenger Hall, the College health center. This arrangement would last for only one year, after which the faculty would move to Dwenger Hall and the Health Center to the ground floor of Schwietermann Hall. Washburn Hall, which had been re-opened, was closed again about a month after the opening of school because of disciplinary problems, and students were moved back onto campus. Washburn would not again be used for students, but a year later was sold.

The College received \$105,565 from Lilly Endowment, Inc. for a two-year project designed to add a **learning skills development** program to the College curriculum. The College itself also added \$87,000 to the project, which was under the direction of John Groppe, associate professor of English and supervisor of the writing clinic. "This project," Mr. Groppe said, "will involve the developing of listening, speaking, reading, writing and thinking skills. By following this order of skills development, we are moving from the simplest to the most abstract skill levels."

Mr. Kenneth Zawodny resigned from the position of Vice President for Business Affairs and from the College. Though for the third year in a row the annual audit showed the budget out of control and failed to sustain an earlier projection of a balanced budget with a surplus, Mr. Zawodny resigned for personal reasons not related to this work. He was succeeded by **Mr. James Thatcher**, who took office on October 1st. He received a B.S. in

Business from Ball State University in 1961 where he majored in accounting, and an M.S. in Business from Indiana University in 1977. He worked as an accountant in various capacities at Purdue University from 1961 to 1974, and since that time was the Vice Chancellor of financial affairs at Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne. Notice of an opening had been placed in the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Ninety applications were received and were screened down to three with the help of an Executive Search Company of Chicago, run by Mr. Norman Van Maldegiam, an alumnus, who donated his services. The final interviewing was done by the President and several Board members. Father Banet expressed the view that the process, though long and arduous, had enabled the College to select the best applicant. And time would show that Mr. Thatcher was, indeed, a very capable and efficient financial manager.

After some years of dissatisfaction with the returns that the College was getting on its 1000 acre farm operation, it was decided to **cash rent** 726 acres. The bids were let on September 26th for an average of \$173 an acre. Another 233 acres were rented on shares as a support for the hog farm, the only farm operation then directly under College management. The College also sold its farm machinery. The rental arrangement would prove more profitable than the previous operation by the College itself.

On September 19th, 1980 Father Banet announced that he had been directed by both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Board, Frank Gallucci and James Zid, to start preparations for a **capital gifts campaign**. To determine what the needs and wants were in the College community, he had a meeting with the Development Committee and also called for reports from all interested parties on campus. The price list came to about \$7,000,000. Mr. James Madden, Chairman of the Development Committee of the Board of Trustees, noted that the last campaign in 1974-75 had been started hastily after the Administration Building fire, and mistakes were made which he hoped could be avoided this time with a longer and more systematic planning period. It was his opinion that the College needed professional help in the campaign, but he was opposed to engaging a company as was done the last time, a procedure that antagonized too many of those who were working with the drive. And in the end the campaign would be run by personnel from the Administration and Board with professional help in a consultant capacity. The presentation of the campaign and its execution would consume a major portion of the time and energy of the College Administration and the Board for the next three years, and would prove to be not only Saint Joseph's largest campaign but its most successful one.

1981 Both Sister Karen Craig, Dean of Student Services, and Father James Froelich, Director of Student Residence Life, resigned in order to return to full-time teaching. A resolution from the faculty called for their replacement

to be on the vice presidential level. Accordingly a process similar to that used in hiring the Vice President for Business Affairs was employed, and the result was that **Mr. William Maniscalco** was hired and took up his duties as Vice President for Student Affairs on July 1st. He had held a similar job at Saint Francis College, Loretto, Pennsylvania, since July 1, 1976. He received his bachelor of arts degree in political science from Saint Francis in 1967 and a master of education degree from Ohio University in 1968.

Mr. Jim Valentine had been hired to make a feasibility study with regard to the proposed capital gifts campaign. The study was positive, and on May 30, 1981, the Board of Trustees approved "a Capital Gift Campaign with a goal of \$7,000,000 for the purpose of financing the renovation and upgrading of current facilities, future new construction and endowment." Another resolution spelled out the priorities in the use of campaign funds more fully: "first, to renovate and upgrade the water treatment system, the water tower, the utility distribution system, and to replace the powerhouse superstructure with a new building, as needed; second, to renovate and upgrade all buildings so as to make them energy efficient, and to perform all essential maintenance; third, to build a new Core Academic Center; fourth, to renovate and upgrade the entire campus; and fifth, for endowment." Mr. Philip Wilhelm, alumnus and member of the Board, accepted the position of Chairman of the Campaign and would prove to be very energetic and efficient at the task, and most generous with his time. Mr. Valentine was hired as a consultant on a per diem basis. The same meeting also passed the resolution that a full-time Vice President for Development be appointed as soon as possible, from outside the institution and the C.P.P.S. community.

- 1981- On September 18th Father Banet reported on the progress of the campaign:  
 1982 "Mr. Wilhelm, since he accepted the general chairmanship of the Capital Gifts Campaign on June 8th, has been meeting every two weeks with personnel concerned with the campaign. Dr. Joseph Muhler has pledged 1.2 million dollars for a new Core-Academic building to be named for his father, Howard Joseph Muhler, who graduated from Saint Joseph's College in 1903. We have total pledges to date of \$3,213,000, which make the goal of seven million appear attainable. Though the campaign runs for two years with a five year pay period, Mr. Wilhelm hopes to get most pledges in during the first year. This, too, seems an attainable goal, in view of the vigorous approach that Mr. Wilhelm has taken." The advance gift campaign had been conducted by the President, Father Banet, the Chairman, Mr. Wilhelm, and the Vice Chairman, Mr. James Madden.

The biweekly Campaign meetings began June 16th, at which time a beginning was made in working out the numerous details for the campaign, getting together all the materials needed and engaging the required personnel and office help. By the second meeting, June 30th, the official name for the campaign was chosen: **Renewal: SJC into Tomorrow**. By the July 14th

meeting most of the full campaign committee was assembled and chairmen appointed for the different areas to be solicited, namely: major gifts, foundations, corporations, Jasper County, students, alumni, faculty, religious, employees, and parents. The full committee, twenty-five in all, were present for the September 29th meeting, including Mr. Charles Luke, who had been hired as Vice President for Development and took office on September 1st. Thus for the first time in ten years all four vice presidential positions were filled by separate individuals. The official kick-off date for the campaign was set for Homecoming, October 17th. The total pledges to date were \$3,643,085; this figure included the recent \$195,000 grant from the Department of Energy; it did not include the recent grant of \$295,000 from the Krannert Charity Trust for campus renovation.

The fall enrollment was down 20 from the previous year's 1002, the loss being represented by the resident men students. Women numbered 394, the same as the previous year, with their percentage rising to 40.1. Enrollment of new students dropped from 408 to 353. Some of the problem appeared to lie in the confusion over financial aid, with the federal and State programs not only being reduced, but the amount being announced so late in the year that great uncertainty was created in the minds of many applicants. Studies in the Admissions Office showed that male students generally applied later than female students and were thus affected more by the uncertainties of financial aid in late summer; this perhaps accounted for their decline in numbers. There was considerable concern in the Board of Trustees about the decrease in enrollment of new students, and in its October 16th meeting it adopted the resolution "that the Administration take a careful look at admissions and report back to the Board of Trustees." Admissions became a matter of study and discussion throughout the school year by both the Administration and the Board.

Having earlier in the semester staged *The Lion in Winter*, the **Columbian Players**, under the direction of Brother James Mignerey, returned November 12-15 with *Working*, a musical based on the book *Working* by Studs Terkel. The cast involved students, faculty and people from the neighborhood. The results were highly proclaimed on and off campus, some people taking in the play two or three times. This was Brother James' first year on the faculty, having graduated from Saint Joseph's in 1974. Prior to returning to the College he taught speech, theatre arts and music at Brunnerdale High School Seminary, Canton, Ohio.

- 1982    In recognition of the very extensive benefactions of Mr. Frank McHale, former member of the Board and now deceased, the Board of Trustees in its meeting of April 23rd, authorized changing the name of Xavier Hall to **The Frank McHale Memorial** Administration Building—Xavier Hall. For many decades the south end of the old Administration Building had been

known as Xavier Hall, the living quarters of the C.P.P.S. seminarians. In 1940 the present Xavier Hall was erected for them, and it became the Administration Building in 1973 with the burning of the old building. The resolution of the Board contained the further directive "that should the administration offices be moved to another site, the name would follow."

During the summer Father Paul White became the Director of the Capital Gifts Campaign upon the untimely death on May 30th of **Father Alvin Druhman**, who had been the director. Father Druhman had been in the English Department for over thirty years, and for sixteen years had been secretary of the President's Council, and for the last several years had been the Director of Development and also the editor of *Contact*, the alumni paper, which he raised to a high level of excellence. As Director of the Campaign he not only set up the necessary office arrangements, but edited the campaign brochure, the Case Statement and other literature. He also visited prospective donors. A \$50,000 Memorial Scholarship was designated by the Board of Trustees in his honor. His work would be carried on by Father Paul White, who joined the faculty in 1953, was Executive Vice President during 1965-75, was gone for six years as the Director of the C.P.P.S. Theologate in Chicago, and returned to Saint Joseph's in 1981 as Associate Professor of Economics and Associate Chaplain. He continued his teaching with a reduced load for 1982-83, but was relieved of teaching in 1983-84 to devote full time to the Campaign, during which time he visited many prospective donors.

On June 1 Mr. William Craig resigned from the office of Admissions, which he had held since 1975. Even though there had been an increase in freshman enrollment in each of the previous three years, and the decrease of 20 students the current year seemed related to the uncertainties of federal and State aid, members of the Administration and the Board of Trustees were not satisfied with his work, and were especially worried concerning what appeared to be poor prospects for new students in the coming year. With his resignation it was decided to combine the offices of student **financial aid and admissions**, and Mr. David Hoover, who had been the Director of Financial Aid since 1976, now took over both offices. Because the College, like many other colleges, faced an almost certain decline in enrollment because of decrease in federal and State aid, at Father Banet's request the Board of Trustees in its June 4th meeting, in addition to the already existing athletic grants, authorized the institution of other one-fourth tuition **service grants** for the recruitment of new students. Even though instituted late in the year the grants would account for about sixty students in the following fall enrollment, thus helping to limit the total decrease to 20 students.

1982- To offset decrease of federal and State aid, **institutional aid** was increased.  
 1983 "In total," Mr. Hoover stated, "the institution has increased its funding 40 to 50 percent above last year's amount." This included the newly-initiated institutional loan program, funded by a \$130,000 estate left to the College,



which allows many students to borrow up to \$1200 per year at 9% interest. There was also a significant increase in the number of jobs available on campus.

Over the spring and summer the north end of the **chapel basement**, which for 80 years had served as a student dining room, was completely remodeled for use by the Departments of Psychology and Communications. It now provided office space for the faculties in the two departments. In addition, for the Department of Communications it housed the radio station, TV studio and other audio-visual equipment, and for the Department of Psychology sufficient space for demonstrations, human experiments and animal laboratories. For both departments there was now a pleasant atmosphere for teaching and learning.

Ellen and Padraic Kennedy were at Saint Joseph's during the week of October 24-29 as **Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellows**. The program began in 1973 "to promote greater contact, understanding, and sharing of ideas and experiences between the academic community and the 'outer world.' " The program is directed mainly to small, private, liberal arts colleges, where Fellows, usually one each semester, come for a school week and mingle with the students and faculty on campus and in the class rooms. They began coming to Saint Joseph's in the fall of 1975; at that time the SJC coordinator and host was Father Donald Shea, and later Dr. John Egan. The program was excellent for the morale and the education of both faculty and students as well as neighborhood friends. Dr. Egan's enthusiasm and organization made Saint Joseph's a favorite among visiting Fellows. But for lack of funding the program ceased at SJC in 1986. It has been replaced by the Charles Halleck Distinguished Alumnus Lecturer program sponsored by Dr. John Egan and Anne-Marie Egan.

The month of November witnessed the **demolition of Gaspar Hall**, to the regret of some and the satisfaction of others. It had been built in 1897 to house the "Minims," students below high school age. From 1905 to 1940 it was the Faculty Residence Building, and from 1940, at which time it was named Gaspar Hall, till 1973 it was a student residence. In 1973, after the burning of the Administration Building it became a Faculty Office Building until 1980, after which time it was left vacant till its destruction. The first floor was also at one time a music department, and the basement was successively a gym, a candy store, a cafe, a book store, and a lounge. Its demise left a vacant spot on campus and in the hearts of many.

1983 The Board of Trustees Meeting and Dining Room, newly constructed in the south chapel basement, was used for the first time on February 18th, 1983, for a meeting of the Executive Committee. In the same meeting the Room was named in honor of Ray Ziegman, an alumnus of the College, who had been on the Board of Trustees for 26 years, and in loyalty to the Col-

lege, in faithfulness in attendance at meetings, and in financial support was without rival. It was to be the last meeting of the Board that he would attend. He died April 10th at the age of 80. In its meeting of April 15th, the Board of Trustees dedicated to his memory all academic scholarships to be awarded for the 1983-84 school year. Had he been present to do so, Mr. Ziegman would have humbly, yet graciously, accepted the honor.

One of the projects that it was hoped would be funded by the \$7,000,000 capital gifts campaign was a **new Core Building** to stand on the north end of the terrace east of Merlini and Dwenger Halls. Architectural plans were drawn up by the firm of Walter Scholer and Associates, Inc. The need was felt for a separate building for lectures in view of the fact that the auditorium is often in use for other purposes and the facilities are inadequate for the best Core results. In addition to a lecture hall seating a maximum of 400, the new building would also contain nine discussion rooms and space for meetings and for the storing of Core materials. Funds did not become available for construction, but the building, expanded to include faculty and some administrative offices, will be a focal point of the 1991 centennial capital gifts campaign.

Two **new computer systems** were purchased to replace the IBM/34. A PRIME 2250 System was purchased for administrative use. And another system was bought for use in the academic area. The latter was a PRIME 550 Model-II, a much faster and more powerful system than the older IBM/34. Dr. John Nichols, secretary of the Computer Use Committee, explained: "The new system when completed will be comparable to computer systems at major universities, such as Purdue, plus it will be more available for the students to use." Installation of the new system was completed by the end of the summer. Computer facilities had already been updated the previous October when a GIMIX micro-computer with eight terminals was installed in the Computer Center. The installation of the new systems, with direct access from remote terminals, eliminated need for the time-honored IBM punch cards.

At the October meeting of the Board of Trustees, Dr. William Hogan, Athletic Director, reported on the needs in the area of athletics. Because of women's athletics and for other reasons, he stated, intercollegiate sports had increased from 5 teams to 13 during the past few years. Furthermore over 85% of the student body was engaged in intramural sports. There simply were **not enough facilities** for all these activities to keep students active during the long winter months. The Athletic Department, therefore, was proposing construction of another building approximately the size of the present fieldhouse. The proposal would eventually result in the Hanson Recreation Center.

1984 After nineteen years in the position **Charles J. Schuttrow**, Director of Public Information, was not reappointed as Advisor to the student paper *Stuff*.

Some of the faculty and some student writers complained that his strict supervision amounted to censorship. On the other hand, in the October 29, 1983 meeting of the Board of Trustees the Chairman and some of the members voiced concern over what they thought was lack of supervision in permitting what they perceived as the negative and destructive attitude manifested in editorials and other parts of the paper. Father Charles Banet, President, pointed out to the Board that the school paper was free to present any opinion without prior censorship, except that it was forbidden to debate Catholic doctrine or discuss birth control and abortion. It is noteworthy, in any case, that during the nineteen years from 1965 to 1983, when Mr. Schuttrow was the advisor, *Stuff* twice annually received All-American Award of the Associated Collegiate Press. These 38 citations marked the longest consecutive period in which any U.S. college or university newspaper received ACP's highest accolade.

A TV satellite dish, purchased by the Student Association, was installed on campus on February 24. The three-year contract with the TV Cable Company in Rensselaer ran out in December, 1983. "We needed to find an alternative," observed Rob Bridges, President of the Student Association, "and after investigating, found that a satellite dish would be economical and attractive to the students." The dish, along with a 50 foot antenna and amplifying equipment, cost the students \$23,400. But it never met expectations and turned out to be a costly mistake. In January 1986 the contract with Rensselaer TV Cable Company was renewed and in October, 1988, the student system was sold to the Jasper County Hospital for \$5000.

After holding the position for twelve years, **Dr. Robert Garrity** resigned the office of Vice President for Academic Affairs and returned to full-time teaching. He was succeeded in office July 1 by **Dr. William Downard**, SJC alumnus and chairman of the history department, who spent the school year 1983-84 at Loyola University in Chicago as a Fellow in the American Council on Education Fellows Program in Academic Administration. Dr. Downard had been acting Dean of the College from August 1982 to January 1983 while Dr. Garrity was on sabbatical leave attending Purdue University for a Master's Degree in English. As it turned out Dr. Downard would hold the office only a short time because of his untimely death from heart disease on August 17, 1984. He was succeeded in office by **Dr. John Nichols**, a member of the faculty in the Philosophy Department since 1968 and Core Coordinator since 1973. He assumed the new office on October 1, 1984.

There was another change on the Vice Presidential level. **Jim Valentine**, who was a development consultant during the 1981-84 Captial Gifts Campaign, became Vice President for Development this year. He had operated his own consulting firm during 1970-84. His considerable skill and experience would be put to work in raising funds for the College.

The three-year "SJC: Renewal into Tomorrow" **capital gifts campaign** came to a close June 1, 1984. It exceeded the goal of \$7 million in pledges, half of which was already paid in at the time of closing. The cost of running the campaign averaged 5 cents to the dollar, a tribute to the hard work of many volunteers. A major portion of the funds has been expended to upgrade deteriorating utility systems and to protect existing facilities from weather damage. The effort to increase SJC's endowment was also well under way and would be the primary focus of fund raising in the coming months.

- 1985 There was general dissatisfaction, both on the part of the Vice President of Students Affairs and of the student body and faculty, with the workings and structure of **the judicial system** which handled student disciplinary cases. The system consisted of 1) a Campus Judicial Board, composed of five students elected by the Student Association and two faculty members appointed by the President's Administrative Council, and 2) a College Review Board, which heard appeals from decisions of the Campus Judicial Board. The Review Board consisted of four students, four members of the faculty, and one representative of the Student Affairs Office. Decisions on disciplinary actions were made in the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. If the student was unwilling to accept the decision, he/she had the right of petition to the Campus Judiciary Board, whose decision in turn could be appealed to the College Review Board.

The procedure in practice **was cumbersome** and time consuming on the part of many people, and it appeared to some that justice was not always served. Consequently Mr. William Maniscalco, Vice President for Student Affairs, proposed some changes to the Student Life Committee. These proposed changes worked their way up the chain of authority till they were discussed by the Board of Trustees. The result was that the Board Committee, chaired by trustee Michael Kanne, a U.S. Federal Judge, recommended, along with some changes in the Code of Student Conduct, elimination of the Campus Judicial Board and retention only of a modified College Review Board, to which a student could appeal from a decision of the Vice President of Student Affairs. The recommendations were accepted by the faculty. The **new Review Board** consists of two students, two faculty members and one administrator. The system has been working well to the satisfaction of faculty and students, with only an occasional appeal from the Vice President's decisions.

The College received approval from the U.S. Department of Education for a **subsidized government loan** of \$744,000 at 3% interest. This was the first such loan since the \$840,000 loan at 3% interest for the construction of Justin Hall in 1968. (In February, 1987, the long-term government loans of 1961 and 1967 were consolidated into one nine-year private \$1,100,000 loan from American Fletcher National Bank of Indianapolis.) The current loan was to be used for the renovation of Aquinas, Merlini, Seifert, Noll

and Bennett Halls. Among the many scheduled improvements were energy efficient windows, new lighting, smoke detectors tied into the central security computer, ramps for the handicapped, fire escapes, and a new 12,000 KV electrical cable. Later another government loan of \$170,0000 was taken out at 3% interest. Also, a commercial loan of \$1,000,000 was negotiated for the construction of the Hanson Recreation Center. As of July, 1987, these various long term loans added up to \$3,014,000.

On April 20 **Father Edward Roof** was inducted into the Saint Joseph's College Sports Hall of Fame. This was in recognition of Father Roof's many years of service to the sports program. He was the athletic director 1937-53, during which time the Alumni Fieldhouse and the permanent football bleachers and press box were constructed. (In the fall of 1989 a larger and more elaborate press box was erected.) Fr. Roof was also instrumental in bringing the Chicago Bears to the campus for their summer training; they continued to return for 30 years. In 1990, at the age of 88, Fr. Roof is still a familiar figure on campus and in the Rensselaer community.

In preparation for the introduction of a Core segment on Latin America as part of Non-Western Studies (now called Intercultural Studies) a four-week workshop for five faculty members was held in the summer of 1985, funded by a grant from the Association of American Colleges. Also to gain better acquaintance with Latin America, Father James Froelich, chairman of the Religion Department and professor in Core, on a leave of absence spent eight months (second semester of 1984-85 and the following summer) in Peru, Chile, El Salvador and Guatemala. The following summer, as part of their preparation for teaching in the **Latin America Core**, Father Tim McFarland and Dr. William White spent two weeks in Costa Rica. Meanwhile Dr. John Posey, who would become the Director of Latin America Core, spent a part of the summer visiting Peru, Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua. All three were on a grant from the Consortium for the Advancement of Private Higher Education. In the summer of 1987, on a grant from Lilly Endowment, Drs. William White, Duval Jones, John Egan and Father Donald Davison would spend a month in Peru. Then in the summer of 1988, also on a grant, Fathers James Froelich and Tim McFarland and Drs. John Posey and Duval Jones would spend a month in Brazil. All of this activity testified not only to the thorough preparation that was being made for the introduction of the Core segment on Latin America, but of the growing importance of Latin America in the American consciousness. The Latin America Studies segment of Core was introduced into the curriculum for the second semester of 1987-88.

In October, 1985, it was announced that the campus paper *Stuff* would begin using computers in its production. This meant shifting the printing of the paper from the Campbell Printing Co. to the Rensselaer *Republican*, since only the latter was able to provide a computer hookup with the campus. The

text was composed on a word processor, sent by telephone to the *Republican*, where it was typeset and returned to the editors for making the layout. But with the acquisition by the College of MacIntosh computers and a laser printer in 1988 and the accompanying capability of **desktop publishing**, both the typesetting and layout are now done on campus, and only the photographing and printing are done at the *Republican*.

- 1986 **Charles Halleck** died on March 3 at the age of 85. He was from Rensselaer and for 34 years had been a United States Congressman. During that time he was a good friend and benefactor of the College, and in retirement a distinguished lecturer in history on campus. The funeral was held from the Saint Joseph's College chapel, with the services conducted by the Rev. Donald Ruhl, Mr. Halleck's minister from Trinity United Methodist Church in Rensselaer, and Father Charles Banet, President, who also delivered the sermon.

In 1984 a cooperative pre-nursing program was worked out between Saint Joseph's College and Rush University in Chicago. The program calls for the student to spend two years at Saint Joseph's College and two years at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center for an RN diploma. While still in existence, the program has been greatly overshadowed by the arrangement between Saint Joseph's College and the Saint Elizabeth Hospital **School of Nursing**, Lafayette, Indiana. The arrangement includes two programs: a Diploma Program which prepares the student for an RN license, and a BSN Completion Program, which entitles the student to a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. The student spends one year at Saint Joseph's, with some of the faculty coming from Saint Elizabeth's. The next two years are spent at Saint Elizabeth's, with some faculty going there from Saint Joseph's. At the end of the first three years the student receives the RN diploma. After the fourth year, which is spent at Saint Joseph's and is optional, the student qualifies for the BSN degree. The program began in the fall of 1986. By the following year there were 100 students in the two programs combined, and two years later 155. The arrangement has been a great boost for the overall enrollment of the College.

**Richard Hanson**, 1963 SJC graduate and President of Stein and Company in Chicago, and his wife Maureen pledged \$500,000 to the College to assist in the construction of the \$1.9 million recreation center. Construction began on the Feast of Saint Joseph, March 19, 1986, and the building was opened for use the following October 2. It was named the **Hanson Recreation Center** in honor of Mr. Hanson's parents. It is slightly larger than the Alumni Field House and stands directly west of it. Enclosed runways connect it with the Fieldhouse and the Raleigh Hall athletic building. Designed for non-varsity games, it includes facilities for basketball, tennis, track, and volleyball, in addition to some offices for athletic personnel.

Father Banet reported to the President's Administrative Council on November 3, 1986, that **Thomas Huhn**, a 1959 SJC graduate, star football player and member of the SJC Sports Hall of Fame, and his wife, Elizabeth, donated \$500,000 as an endowment for scholarships for students from the area of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and contiguous counties. The requirements are that the recipient be an above average student, a football or basketball player, and leader in student organizations.

On November 8, **Karen Austin**, a SJC sophomore, set a course record at the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional cross country meet. Winning this meet, the first time a SJC student had done so, qualified her for the Women's National Meet in California on November 19. Her hope of making All-American standing, however, eluded her as she failed to rank in the top twenty-five runners.

- 1987 On January 1 the college program for **C.P.P.S. seminarians** was terminated. The College had been founded primarily to educate seminarians studying for the Diocese of Ft. Wayne and the Society of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.). It ceased to be a minor seminary for the Ft. Wayne Diocese in 1932, but continued as a training center for C.P.P.S. students. Now this phase of the College, too, had come to an end. "The lack of numbers and financial considerations," said Father Tim McFarland, a member of the faculty and vocation director for the Society, "caused us to close the seminary program." The Society of the Precious blood, however, remains in contact with those students on campus who are interested in becoming members of the Society.

For the second year SJC radio-television students attended a **Media Workshop in Hollywood**. This year seven of them were in attendance during August 15-22 accompanied by Fred Berger, assistant professor of communications; they were welcomed by Theodore J. Schmitt, a 1966 SJC graduate, who is senior vice president for acquisitions and program development at MCA Home Video in Universal City, California. During the workshop, Mr. Berger lectured on "The History of Hollywood and the Studio System", and gave historical perspectives on the four studios that the group visited. Another group of students, along with Mr. Berger, would attend a similar workshop in the summer of 1988, and Mr. Berger himself would spend the second semester of the school year 1988-89 on sabbatical in Hollywood, primarily co-authoring a feature motion picture script. He was also appointed director of The Media Workshops. Another group of five students would attend the workshop in the summer of 1989.

On October 1, 1987, the College received a \$500,000 matching grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. on Lilly's "dream of distinction" program. After much consultation with people on campus, Dr. John Nichols, Vice President for Student Affairs, had recommended to the President, Father Banet, that SJC "dream wish" be a **computerized campus**, and an application

for that purpose was submitted. The total cost of the project was estimated at one million dollars, one-fourth of which would go into an endowment to maintain the system. When completed the system would network faculty offices and student dormitory rooms as well as other colleges and universities throughout the country and thus make possible a first rate processing system for instruction and administration. The library index would also be computerized and put into the network. Work on the new system was begun in the summer of 1988 with the installation of additional personal computers and a fiber optics cable network between classrooms, faculty offices and the Administrative Computer Center. The library portion was largely completed in the summer of 1989. When finished the program would provide a state of the art system matched by few other small colleges or universities.

For some time there had been concern among members of the Board of Trustees about the recruitment of new students. Enrollment had gone from 937 in 1984 to 847 in 1985 and 850 in 1986, at a time when enrollments were increasing over the country generally. Some believed it to be a marketing and management problem that could be solved. Mr. Richard Stein, a new member of the Board, offered to fund the hiring of a consultant to study the problem and make proposals. Accordingly **Dr. William Ihlanfeldt** of Northwestern University was engaged to make the study and act as an advisor over the eighteen-month period from March, 1987, to July, 1988. He submitted his fifteen-page report in February, 1987. The major elements of the proposed plan were 1) more effective market penetration, 2) more efficient prospect communication, 3) expanded course and extracurricular options in specific areas, and 4) realignment of tuition and financial aid structures. Each of these was spelled out in some detail.

Another development that grew out of Dr. Ihlanfeldt's study was the establishment of the **Enrollment Management Committee (EMC)**. The importance put on the Committee was underscored by the fact that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Philip Wilhelm, assumed the chairmanship himself. The EMC, in addition to the chairman, consisted of fifteen people: five from the faculty, one from the student body, the four Vice Presidents, and five others from the administration. It held two meetings during the summer and fall of 1987, in which it studied the recommendations of Dr. Ihlanfeldt and the results of a student survey by the Institute for Management Improvement — a service provided by Trustee Tom Huhn — as well as an array of other management ideas designed to make the college more marketable. The EMC issued an 80-page "Enrollment Management Plan" in March of the following year, out of which would grow a number of resolutions for action by the Board of Trustees.

Looking forward to the celebration of the centennial of the College in 1991, the President appointed a **Centennial Committee** to make the necessary



preparations. The committee held its first meeting on September 3, 1987, in which it was decided that the centennial celebration would extend over a three year period, climaxing in September, 1991. In this and subsequent meetings, among items agreed upon were an updated version of Father Charles Robbins' SJC Chronology, a photo-history of the College by Father Dominic Gerlach, a *Festschrift* by faculty members on some aspects of higher education, an oral history of the College through videotaped interviews with alumni and others connected with the College, a sixteen-month Calendar: A Century of SJC Events, summer workshops and faculty forums during the school year, and distinguished guest lecturers and commencement speakers. The oral history was funded by a matching grant from Indiana Heritage Research Grants. The summer workshops, faculty forums and *Festschrift* were funded by grants from Lilly Endowment and National Endowment for the Humanities. The first event in the three-year centennial calendar was the commencement address by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin for the May, 1988 graduation; and the second was the five week faculty spring workshop on the history and culture of the Greeks, as a part of the continued enhancement of Core 2. There would be a similar workshop the following summer on some works of the European Middle Ages, directed towards a better understanding of the contents of Core 3.

1988     The SJC **women's basketball** team won the Great Lakes Valley Conference championship with a season record of 25-3. Then on March 12 they won the NCAA, Division II, Great Lakes Regional tournament. This victory entitled them to compete at Fargo, North Dakota, for the national championship. But playing on their own floor, North Dakota State University defeated Saint Joseph's 87-74. The Lady Pumas finished the season with a 27-4 record and were ranked eighth among NCAA, Division II, teams.

The **women's track** team had an equally remarkable year. On April 30, 1988, by rolling past ten opponents, they claimed their third consecutive Little State championship and finished the season with a perfect mark of 28-0. The team had now put together three straight unbeaten seasons with a total of 93 consecutive wins, by far the longest winning streak in any sport in Saint Joseph's history.

On April 18, 1988, services began in the **new Post Office**, situated south of the computer center where the old laundry had been. The new Post Office was built by the College and is leased to the U.S. government. In the spring of 1987 the old powerhouse buildings, which had been erected in 1904 and were currently being used for academic computers, warehouse, janitorial services, the post office and some faculty and staff offices, were found to be unsafe. The academic computer facilities were moved to the second floor of the Computer Center. Later in the summer they were moved to the laundromat building, the washers and driers having been moved into the dormitories. The warehouse, janitorial services and the office of Superinten-

dent of Buildings were moved to what had been part of the old kitchen and storage area south of Aquinas Hall. The old powerhouse complex was razed in May, 1988, a parking lot was made in its place, and an annex built on the north side of the Computer Center.

One of the recommendations of the Enrollment Management Committee was that a floor in some of the dormitories be set aside for freshmen. Mr. William Maniscalco, Vice President for Student Affairs, had for some time been concerned about the lack of "sub cultures" on campus. It was also a concern of Dr. William Ihlanfeldt, consultant to the EMC. Mr. Maniscalco hoped to remedy the situation by implementing the "**residential college**" **concept** through setting aside one dormitory exclusively for freshmen, another for intensive study, and a third for special interest groups such as those majoring in the same department. In its meeting on March 16, EMC adopted the first two ideas. But in the various meetings Mr. Maniscalco had with student groups there was strong opposition to the idea of freshman floors, since many upperclassmen would be required to move from the dormitories in which they had lived since enrolling. Eventually a compromise proposal, in which only a portion of certain floors was set aside for freshmen, went to the Board of Trustees where it was adopted in the April 22, 1988 meeting. But opposition continued throughout the fall of 1988 and in its meeting of January 12, 1989, EMC decided to recommend to the Board of Trustees discontinuation of freshman floors. This was later done.

On July 29, 1988, the College sold 17.3 acres of land across the road from the bowling alley and the fieldhouse for the construction of the **Campus View Shopping Center**. The land was sold to Hamstra Builders, Inc. of Wheatfield, Indiana, for \$413,515. During the previous year negotiations had been held with James E. Smith Enterprises of Lafayette, Indiana, but when it became clear that Smith was unable to complete the transaction, arrangements were made with Hamstra, who also operates the College Square Shopping Center north of the bowling alley.

The sale of another tract of College land was made on August 29, 1988, when 60.4 acres were sold to the City of Rensselaer for \$151,000. The land encompasses the **sewage treatment lagoons** of the City of Rensselaer. In 1961 65 acres of land had been conditionally donated to the City. But now there was need to upgrade the system, and in order for the City to qualify for a government grant to aid in the renovation, the land had to be owned outright. The City received the grant of \$2.673 million, and a contract was let for \$3.7 million to build a new wastewater treatment plant. In the earlier arrangement the College was able to use the lagoon for its own sewage disposal free of charge. But with the purchase of the land by the City, the College would now pay an annual fee for its use.

The efforts of the Enrollment Management Committee were beginning to show results in the work of the Admissions Office. From the lows of 1984 (847) and 1985 (850), **enrollment** rose to 930 in 1987 and 1001 in 1988, rising above a thousand for the first time in eight years. The increase was due primarily to the addition of 100 nursing students, but not totally so. In the fall of 1988, for example, the freshman class, independently of nursing students, rose to 315 from 276 the previous year. The increase, however, of 9.28% in total enrollment, while heartening, had to be seen against the fact that there was a similar rise nationwide. The College could not, and had no intention to, relax its efforts in this area of management.

In response to the Enrollment Management Committee's recommendations for the recruitment and retention of students, **women's golf** and **women's soccer** were added as varsity sports, and the **marching band** was revived. The band performed at the home games in the fall of 1988. Though the cost of uniforms, instruments, recruitment and operations, and the director's salary made the revival of the marching band quite expensive, it was hoped that its revival, along with the addition of women's golf and soccer, would pay off through an increase in the student body. The new band director, James Earnest, had been the band director in the Rensselaer High School for a number of years.

On November 16, 1988, the new **Centrex system** went into effect. The system allows each telephone on campus to have its own private number, making it unnecessary for incoming calls to go through the switchboard. There are other conveniences, also, such as Speed calling, which, with proper programming, allows some local and long distance calls to be dialed through one or two-digit code numbers.

On December 12 the College became a member of Internet, a **computer network**, by leasing a line from Purdue University. The network gives computer users on the SJC campus access to 40,000 computers at some of the largest research universities in the world.

The third of the centennial events took place on December 4, 1988, with the dual celebration of the centenary of the Saint Joseph's Indian Normal School and the beatification of **Mother Katharine Drexel**. The Indians had come to the school in the fall of 1888 and Drexel was beatified on November 20, 1988. The College was involved in the Indian School inasmuch as both were operated by the Society of the Precious Blood, the land and buildings were given to the College in 1921, and the Old Indian School building became Drexel Hall in 1937. The dual celebration consisted of displays of the Indian School history and Indian artifacts and a program in the auditorium on the Indian School and the life of Mother Drexel, followed by a reception in the William Downard Faculty Lounge.

In line with the national trend to increase **minority enrollment**, the Board

of Trustees in its October, 1988, meeting passed the following resolution: "To initiate a new scholarship awards program to be designated 'Minority Leadership Awards'. The criteria for the awards are to be established by the Financial Aids Committee. There are to be ten (10) awards each year, with a total maximum of \$35,000, beginning in August, 1989." There were initially six awards accepted and the students enrolled for the school year 1989-90.

- 1989 The Rensselaer TV Cable Company set aside TV Channel 6 for the use of Saint Joseph's College. The SJC channel, **WPUM-TV 6**, is affiliated with National College TV (NCTV), which produces programs on various college campuses. The SJC channel is available on any TV set on campus but not beyond it. The station started in the spring of 1989 with movies and rock videos, and in the fall branched out to locally produced programs, such as taped interviews and schedules of campus events. What can be done with the station is limited only by talent, time and funds.

For the second year in a row the Lady Pumas won the Great Lakes Valley Conference championship with a season record of 27-3 and then went on to win the NCAA, Division II, **Great Lakes Regional Tournament**. They left March 14 for Pomona, California, to contend for the national championship. Unfortunately they lost the first game to California Poly-Pomona on its own floor.

The Centennial Committee had recommended that in the three years of the centennial celebration the College recognize prominent figures in education, state government and the Church. In accordance with this recommendation, the commencement speaker for this year's May 7th graduation was **Ernest Boyer**, former U.S. Commissioner of Education and currently President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Education. Besides being a well known figure in higher education, he has shown himself especially interested in general education and in that capacity has had some kind words about the SJC Core Program. In his book, *College: the Undergraduate Experience in America*, appears a survey of the nation's academic deans, which cites the SJC general education curriculum as one of the five best in the nation.

At the February 17, 1989 meeting of the Board of Trustees, Father Banet announced the formation of a **new football conference**, called Midwest Intercollegiate Football Conference. It is the merger of the five teams of the Heartland Conference, of which Saint Joseph's was a member, and six Michigan teams of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The reason for the merger was that the Heartland Conference was too small, and three of the members refused to accept suggested additions. Since five of the Michigan colleges are State schools and all are larger than Saint Joseph's, it was expected that the competition would be stiffer.

Cathie Fedder, with a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and a master's degree from Ball State University, was hired as the first **female head trainer**. She was not only the first to hold such a position at Saint Joseph's College, but one of only two female head trainers at Indiana colleges. Both her father and one of her brothers are SJC alumni.

In its July 14-15, 1989 meeting the Board of Trustees authorized a \$20,000,000 centennial **capital gifts campaign**, \$10 million in outright gifts and \$10 million in deferred giving. The distance that the College has come in the area of fund raising can be gaged by the fact that the Trustees with some trepidation approved a \$7,000,000 campaign in 1980. As in 1980 Mr. Philip Wilhelm, Chairman of the Board, accepted the position of Chairman of the Campaign, with Mr. John Benish agreeing to serve as Vice Chairman. The objectives of the campaign are funds for 1) erection of the Core/Faculty building, 2) rehabilitation and renovation of the physical plant, and 3) increase of the endowment fund. Erection of the Core/Faculty building was made mandatory even if that meant cutting back on endowment from outright gifts.

In its meeting of October 20, 1989, the Board of Trustees accepted the report of the Building Committee, which called for the new **Core/Faculty Building** to be erected east of the Science Building in the area that was once the baseball diamond, with the front entrance facing the chapel. It was to be a two-story building, which, in addition to Core and Faculty, would also house the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Admissions Office. The tentative proposal of **46,000 square feet** would make it about two thirds the size of the Administration Building that burned in 1973. It was the hope of all present that ground breaking would be one of the events celebrated during the Centennial Year.

As the College looks forward to its Centennial Year and beyond to the 21st century, it does so with renewed faith and confidence in its mission.

## COLLEGE BUILDINGS

Year	Building	Year	Building
1867	First orphan building Burned 1888	1913	Band Stand Razed 1963
1868	Orphan chapel building Razed 1915	1915	New Gymnasium (Science Building)
1872	Orphan School House Razed 1940	1923	New Power Plant
1888	Indian School	1936	West wing of Science Hall
1891	South half of Main Building Burned 1973	1937	Indian School remodeled into Drexel Hall
1893	North half of Main Building Burned 1973	1939	East & West Seifert
1897	Minim Building (Gaspar) Razed 1982	1940	Xavier Hall, Merlini Hall, Fieldhouse
1904	Old Powerhouse	1954	Washburn Hall purchased Sold 1981
1905	Old Gymnasium Burned 1914	1955	Bennett & Noll Halls
1907	Dwenger Hall	1958	Halas & Gallagher Halls
1910	Chapel	1962	Halleck Center & Schwietermann Hall
1911	Water Tower	1968	Justin Hall
		1986	Hanson Recreation Building

## COLLEGE FARMS

Year	Acres	Total	Source
1889	300	300	Original Donation
1917	160	460	Eigelsbach River Farm
1921	420	880	Indian School Farm
1922	42	922	Bro. William Zink Farm
1930	240	1162	Fowler Farm
1932	155	1317	Frank Kanne Farm
1934	335	1652	Lawler Estate
1945	40	1692	Phegley Farm
1945	- 2.0	1690	Donated to St. Augustine for Calvary Cemetery
1950	- 0.76	1689.24	Sold to Bowling Alley
1952	-240	1449.24	Fowler Farm Sold
1975	- 10	1439.24	College Com. Assn.
1988	- 17.3	1421.94	Shopping Center
1988	-60.4	1361.54	Rensselaer Sewage Lagoon

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# SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE CAMPUS MAP

## LEGEND

- |  |                            |   |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Main Chapel                               | 11. Lake Banet Park        | 22. Gil Hodges Memorial Baseball Field                  |
| 2. Schweiterman Hall (Johnson Health Center) | 12. Soccer Field           | 23. Alumni Football Field                               |
| 3. McHale Administration Bldg. (Admissions)  | 13. Halas Hall             | 24. Track Field   |
| 4. Aquinas Hall Education Bldg.              | 14. Softball Field         | 25. Tennis Court  |
| 5. Administrative Computer Center            | 15. Noll Hall              | 26. Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse (Intercollegiate Sports) |
| 6. Student Computer Center                   | 16. Gallagher Hall         | 27. Hanson Recreation Center                            |
| 7. Post Office                               | 17. Water Tower            | 28. Raleigh Hall (weight room)                          |
| 8. Maintenance Bldg.                         | 18. Powerplant             | 29. Arts & Science Bldg. (classrooms)                   |
| 9. Grotto                                    | 19. Seifert Hall           | 30. Merlini Hall  |
| 10. Justin H. Oppenheim Hall                 | 20. Halleck Student Center | 31. Dwenger Hall  |
|  | 21. Bennett Hall           | 32. Reflecting Pond                                     |

